



A Weekly Journal of the Chemical and Drug Trades
and of
British Pharmacists throughout the Empire.
ESTABLISHED 1859.

The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is the leading journal addressing the chemical and drug trades of the British Empire. It is adopted as an official journal by nineteen Chemists' Societies in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa and the West Indies, and its paid-in-advance circulation in Great Britain and all Countries having business relations with the British Empire is intrinsically and numerically unique.

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In the Coloured Supplement.

College Notes.	Irish Druggists' Council.
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THE EASTER ISSUE.

Next week the offices of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST will be closed from

Thursday Evening, April 4,

until

Tuesday Morning, April 9,

for the Easter holidays. The issue of April 6 must go to press a day earlier than usual, so the work of publication will be facilitated if advertisers in that issue will kindly send their copy and instructions by

Tuesday, April 2.

Address all communications to The Publisher, THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

SUMMARY OF THIS ISSUE.

The more notable items only are dealt with.

Articles and Communications.

Metric weights and measures are not to be enforced on South African chemists (p. 50).

We discuss the condition of the cod-liver oil market, in which there is a slump (p. 49).

Mr. Stanley Clegg, the new President of the Oxford Chemists' Association, figures on p. 55.

Messrs. Umney and Potter have examined the essential oil distilled from the false cubebes which they have recently described (p. 51).

"Xrayser II." deals with Dr. McWalter's idea "city man," arsenical fly-papers, the chemist as chiropodist, car-wigs, and branded bottles (p. 47).

Our correspondence section is again of much interest. In addition to a dozen letters to the Editor, replies are given to over forty queries. The section begins on p. 65.

The mixture of salts given to students this month contained barium carbonate, tartar emetic, and sodium metarsenite. The prizes go to Bedford and Margate (p. 34).

In view of the Secret Remedies inquiry by a Select Committee of the House of Commons, we commence a series of articles on the treatment of the subject in foreign countries (p. 48).

We give further information in regard to the formation of approved societies of employes of firms where they are sufficiently numerous to be independent of external bodies (p. 50).

We also deal with other topics under the National Insurance Act (p. 51), and comment upon the fact that Scottish pharmacists have completed the penultimate stage of their arrangements, while England lags (p. 50).

News of the Week.

Several convictions under the Medicine-stamp Acts are reported on p. 40.

Radium appears to exist in cancer growths (p. 36). A radium standard is proposed (p. 38).

The Zambuk case under the Merchandise Marks Act has been referred to the London Sessions (p. 42).

The portrait of the late Mr. Thirlby, of Leicester, and an appreciation of him are printed on p. 36.

An interim injunction to restrain A. Hommel & Co., Ltd., and others from selling their hæmatogen has been refused (p. 40).

Chlorinated lime has been ruled to be a drug under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act (p. 41). We print a warning note for chemists (p. 50).

"A mean act of revenge" is how Mr. L. M. Parry describes an action by the Pharmaceutical Society against a local director's assistant (p. 43).

In the Supplement we print photographs of the Council of the Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland and of the students of the Northern College of Pharmacy.

Mr. J. P. Gilmore threw fresh light on the Provisional Pharmaceutical Insurance Committee's work at an Executive meeting of the North British Branch last week (p. 53).

First-aid notes for chemists, the treatment of accidents, and sudden illnesses were the features of the meeting of the Birkenhead Pharmacists' Association reported on p. 58.

The Shops Act, 1911, is now the topical subject with metropolitan and provincial chemists. Several important announcements are made on p. 36, besides numerous reports in the Winter Session section of this issue.

The evening meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society in Edinburgh last week discussed flavours and flavouring of medicines in an instructive fashion. Several solubility notes by Mr. D. B. Dott were also communicated (p. 54).

Trade and Market Matters.

The labour troubles continue to exercise a depressing effect in commercial circles, with business strictly for actual wants. Products which have advanced include glucose, starch-powder, ammonium sulphate, copper sulphate, and vanilla (firsts). Benzols, Soudan acacia, senega, W.I. tamarinds are firmer. Lemon, star anise, and cassia oils, cut burdock, pepper, and milk-sugar are cheaper. Glycerin is weak, and iodine compounds are unsettled (p. 61).

CORNER FOR STUDENTS.

Conducted by Leonard Dobbin, Ph.D.

All communications for this section should be addressed thus: "Corner for Students, 'The Chemist and Druggist,' 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C."

Report on March Analytical Exercise.

THE powder distributed to students on February 23 contained seven parts by weight of barium carbonate, two parts of potassium antimonyl tartrate (tartar emetic), and one part of sodium metarsenite. The calculated composition of such a mixture is:

Ba	...	...	...	...	48.7
SbO	...	...	...	...	8.2
K	...	...	...	...	2.4
Na	...	...	...	...	1.8
CO ₃	...	...	...	...	21.3
C ₂ H ₃ O ₆	...	...	...	...	8.9
AsO ₃	...	...	...	...	8.2
H ₂ O	...	...	...	...	0.5
					100.0

The powder also contained, as impurity, a distinct trace of calcium.

Samples of the powder were distributed to sixty-eight students, and thirty-four reports were sent in for examination. The failures in the detection of the several constituents of the mixture were: (a) Metallic radicals—Barium, 5; antimony, 1; potassium, 14; sodium, 4. (b) Acid radicals—Carbonic, 2; tartaric, 13; arsenious, 11. Seven students who detected arsenic omitted to state whether it was present in the arsenious or the arsenic state; nine reported it incorrectly as an arsenate; and only seven reported it correctly as an arsenite.

As in the cases of many previous exercises, the careful application of a few preliminary tests furnished a large amount of valuable information as to the composition of this mixture. Thus, by aid of these tests, it was by no means difficult to establish with tolerable certainty the presence of arsenic, antimony, barium, sodium, a carbonate, and a tartrate or a citrate; consequently those who made even an inexhaustive preliminary examination were able to start upon the systematic analysis with a very distinct advantage as compared with those who altogether omitted this useful aid.

In a strikingly large number of cases the powder was reported as insoluble in water, when it was no doubt meant that it was not entirely soluble in water, whereas in only one or two instances was any attempt made to ascertain whether or not it was partially soluble. The point was not one of any considerable importance in the present instance; but we refer to it again this month in order to emphasise the casual character of the attention which is often given to it and to advise closer attention, since it is sometimes of real consequence. Besides, the superficial mode of dealing with this point is too frequently extended to matters of greater moment for the best results to be attained. Even the casual observer may note the more apparent features which present themselves during the course of an analysis, but it is only those who likewise attend closely to all refinements of observation, and perceive and correctly interpret the less obtrusive phenomena, who can hope to excel in chemical analysis.

The chief failures in the analysis occurred in connection with the arsenite. To begin with, almost one-third of our correspondents failed altogether to detect the presence of arsenic. Several of these did not make any attempt to prove either its presence or its absence, but, having obtained, in the preliminary testing, evidence of the presence of antimony, were content to assume that the orange precipitate produced by hydrogen sulphide consisted of antimonious sulphide only, and hence simply separated this precipitate by filtration and then passed on leaving it unexamined. Assumptions of an analogous nature are the cause of many easily avoidable errors. Of those correspondents who detected arsenic, more than one-third reported it to be present as an arsenate. The way in which several students arrived at this conclusion was easily

explained by the fact that they first converted the arsenite into the arsenic condition by heating with nitric acid and then obtained the ammonium molybdate reaction with the resulting arsenic-acid radical. But a good deal of confusion seems to have existed in the minds of other students regarding the characteristic behaviour of a solution of an arsenate with silver nitrate, since some reported the formation of a yellow precipitate on the addition of this reagent and nevertheless concluded that the arsenic was present as an arsenate; whereas the yellow precipitate was really silver arsenite. One or two of the students who concluded that an arsenate was present, reported the formation of a brown or red-brown precipitate (presumably of silver arsenate) on the addition of silver nitrate, under circumstances which we are not able to explain, since they did not report the carrying out of any operation whereby the arsenite in the original powder could have become oxidised, and the other constituents of the powder were not capable of effecting the requisite oxidation by any internal process.

A larger number than usual of substances not included in our list above were reported present either as main constituents or as impurities. These included lead, iron, aluminium and magnesium among the metals; while the acid radicals included hydrochloric, nitric, sulphuric, sulphurous, sulphidric, hypophosphorous, citric, and oxalic. Besides the calcium referred to above, we were only able to recognise as impurities very faint traces of iron and of a chloride.

Several points, each of which arose in connection with only one, or with very few reports, are dealt with in the replies to individual students, and we recommend all our correspondents to read the whole of these replies.

PRIZES.

The First Prize for the best analysis has been awarded to R. H. COLLINS, 36 St. Peter's Street, Bedford.

The Second Prize has been awarded to C. J. EASTLAND, 76 High Street, Margate.

First Prize.—Any scientific book that is published at a price not greatly exceeding half-a-guinea may be taken as a first prize.

Second Prize.—Any scientific book which is sold for about five shillings may be taken as a second prize.

The students to whom prizes are awarded are requested to write at once to the Publisher naming the book or books they select.

MARKS AWARDED FOR ANALYSES.

1. Correspondents who are unqualified:

R. H. Collins (1st prize)...	95	H. P. C. ...	75
C. J. Eastland (2nd prize) 94		Phenol ...	69
Symbiosis ...	92	Victoria ...	68
Rainbow ...	98	Student ...	66
Red Lead ...	87	Nomen ...	64
Elad ...	85	Phoenix ...	64
J. S. F. ...	85	Chorlton ...	62
Atropin ...	84	B. E. L. ...	61
En Avant ...	83	Lavona ...	59
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Barcarole ...	81	D. B. ...	57
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Kino ...	80	J. H. B. ...	43
Pippin ...	79	Beginner ...	37
Tolut ...	79	Curious ...	13
Cinchona ...	76		

2. Correspondents who are qualified:

Club Moss ...	85	Nitraz ...	87
Cobalt ...	83		

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SYMBIOSIS.—Having detected the presence of arsenic, you ought to have established whether it was present in the arsenious or the arsenic state. In last month's exercise boric acid was no doubt liberated in the test which you applied, owing to the interaction of the borax with the di-hydrogen potassium phosphate which the powder also contained. Your experience is a good illustration of the fact that it is often impossible to conclude with certainty from the result of an experiment as to the particular form of combination in which a substance may have been present originally in a mixture.

ELAD.—When testing for a tartrate, you report that you added silver nitrate to a solution of the powder in

hydrochloric acid, and dissolved the precipitate (of silver chloride) which you obtained in ammonia with a view to obtain a silver mirror. This is not the way to proceed with the test, and a satisfactory result could not be expected. You do not appear to have tested for an arsenite.

J. S. F.—On prolonged heating of the powder with nitric acid and ammonium molybdate, the former converted the arsenite into arsenate, and the latter then gave the usual yellow precipitate; in short, you produced arsenate and detected its presence.

EN AVANT.—When applying an elaborate series of tests for a carbonate and finding it present, you must surely have overlooked the fact that the solution to which you applied these tests was obtained by boiling the powder with water and sodium bicarbonate.

HERIOTONIAN.—The powder was not correctly described as "not soluble in water." Nearly one-third part of it was soluble.

BARCAROLE.—You appear to have omitted to test for potassium.

HEROIN.—The precipitate which you supposed to belong to the silver group consisted of antimonious oxychloride. The arsenate which you detected was produced when you added nitric acid to the hot hydrochloric-acid solution of the original powder. Compare the reply to "J. S. F."

KINO.—The test for a sulphite which you applied was unreliable unless you had satisfied yourself that the bromine-water which you used was free from traces of free sulphuric acid or of sulphates.

PIPPIN.—Read the first sentence of the reply to "Heroin." The precipitate of lead iodide seems to have been purely imaginary.

TOLUT.—If, as your report seems to indicate, you added hydrogen sulphide (instead of hydrochloric acid) to the solution obtained by digesting the hydrogen-sulphide precipitate with ammonium carbonate, it is not surprising that you did not obtain any precipitate of arsenious sulphide. You do not appear to have applied any special test for potassium.

CINCHONA.—You include potassium in your summary of metallic radicals found, but your report does not contain any evidence to prove its presence.

H. P. C.—The decolorisation of potassium permanganate by the original powder in presence of dilute sulphuric acid, which you attributed to the presence of an oxalate, was really due to the arsenite.

PHENOL.—On repeating your experiment of boiling the original powder with sodium carbonate, filtering, acidifying the filtrate with acetic acid, and adding silver nitrate, we obtained a yellow precipitate of silver arsenite—not a red precipitate, as you report.

VICTORIA.—Note that only comparatively few oxides yield oxygen when heated.

NOMEN AND PHOENIX.—Some of the supposed reactions for hypophosphites which you report were due to arsenate of your own making (*vide* reply to "J. S. F.") and some to the arsenite. Others we are not able to account for.

CHORLTON.—The reactions which you attributed to traces of lead were probably due to the barium, which you missed.

TENTS.—The reduction of Fehling's solution, which you attributed to lactose, was due to the arsenite.

VIRUS.—Your report is self-contradictory regarding arsenic, since you refer to one test as indicating its absence, and, six lines further on, to another in proof of its presence. Arsenic is included in your summary, however.

J. H. B.—You will find it of service to prepare a mixture in imitation of this month's exercise and to practise with it until you can separate and recognise its constituents with ease and certainty. You report that mercuric chloride gave a red precipitate with the aqueous extract from the powder, and attribute this to the presence of a carbonate, but we failed to obtain this result.

BEGINNER.—You ought to have examined the original precipitate with hydrogen sulphide instead of simply assuming that it consisted of antimonious sulphide only. When the powder was boiled with sulphuric acid, darkening took place, which was due to the tartrate present. The slight precipitate with ammonia was not aluminium hydroxide, but presumably antimonious oxide. Probably the yellow colour which you got on adding potassium iodide to a solution containing nitric acid was due to the liberation of traces of iodine consequent on the iodide containing some iodate; or it may simply have resulted from the interaction of the iodide with moderately concentrated nitric acid. You detected a nitrate, but apparently overlooked the fact that you had added nitric acid to the solution in which you tested for it.

CRUIERS.—Read the first sentence of the reply to "J. H. B."

NITRAX.—We are at a loss to understand how you got a brown precipitate with silver nitrate in the aqueous extract from the powder, since, on repeating your experiment, we got the usual yellow precipitate of silver arsenite.

The Analytical Tournament.

With the close of the current tournament almost in sight, we now subjoin the six leading scores attained by those students who have sent in reports on all of the five exercises to date. The relative positions of the six students concerned have not been altered from those published last month by the inclusion of the marks awarded for this month's exercise. We anticipate a spirited finish to the contest, and trust that all of those correspondents who have taken part in the tournament so far will make a point of sending in reports upon the concluding exercise:

Nitrax	470	Rainbow	435
Red Lead	450	Cobalt	405
Club Moss	439	Heroin	395

ENGLISH AND WELSH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

On census night there were 4,944 men in the Rowton Houses in London, and of these ten were chemists, five dentists, and seven doctors.

In order to close a trust, the premises of the late Mr. Thos. Benn, chemist and druggist, at 65 Meadow Road, Leeds, are to be disposed of by auction on April 2.

The Beecham Orchestra, conducted by Mr. Thomas Beecham, performed at St. Helens on March 20, when Sir Joseph Beecham invited some 900 guests to his grand concert.

The Christchurch (Hants) Guardians have decided that the outdoor poor at Pokesdown shall obtain their medicines from local chemists instead from the medical officer's surgery.

A case containing about 1,600 bottles of French perfume, estimated to be worth 250*l.*, has been washed ashore at Criccieth, and a case of Scott's emulsion from the *Oceana* was found on the Hastings beach.

Mr. J. J. Shawyer, chemist and druggist, of Wood Street, Swindon, was included among the passive resisters proceeded against on March 20 for non-payment of the educational portion of the poor-rate. The usual order for payment was made.

At the Photographic Exhibition, held by the Canterbury Camera Club on March 21, Mr. Geo. T. Hobbs (local manager for Boots, Ltd.) was awarded a bronze plaque for a picture entitled "A Winter Walk" and the bronze medal for the best lantern-slide (technical section).

The Cardiff Corporation and the Glamorganshire County Council have been considering the possibility of the establishment and maintenance of a joint dispensary in connection with any sanatorium henceforth to be erected. A committee of the County Council has, however, expressed the opinion that the proposal is premature at present.

The Blackburn Medical Officer states in his annual report that health officials have used or issued the following disinfectants: 1,580 gals. of chloros, 2 tons 8 cwt. of chloride of lime, 9,600 7-lb. bags of sanitary dry lime, 237 gross 9½ doz. 1-lb. dredgers of carbolic powder, and 60 gals. of izal. The total cost was 405*l.* 10*s.*, compared with 403*l.* 13*s.* in the previous year.

Application has been made to their respective local authority for poison-licences by Jas. Shepherd Hunter, Rothbury (Northumberland County Council), and Annie Elizabeth Butcher, florist, 9 Warwick Road, Stratford-on-Avon (Warwickshire County Council).—The London County Council have granted a poison-licence to Wm. Cutbush & Son, Highgate Nurseries, Highgate, N.

At Cheltenham on March 22, Harry Dance, errand-boy, was bound over for a year for stealing 1*s.* from a cash-box of his employers, the County Drug Co., Montpellier Walk, Cheltenham. The manager was in the habit of giving the boy a bunch of keys with which to unlock the side-door in the mornings. One of the keys fitted the cash-box. Dance admitted having previously taken 8*s.* The Chairman observed that it was unwise to give the boy the key of the cash-box.

The Shops Act.

The chemists of St. Helens are joining in the application under the Shops Act for an order for early closing on Thursdays.

Hastings chemists are closing voluntarily on Wednesday at 1.30 p.m., except during March, April, August, and September.

The local chemists have decided to support the application to the Stoke-on-Trent Town Council for an order under the new Shops Act for closing at the following hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 8 p.m.; Thursday, 1 p.m.; and Saturday, 1.30 p.m.

Mr. W. Wilson, 281 Brixton Road, London, Chairman of the Executive of the Brixton Chemists Early-closing Movement, writes:

May I ask your kind cooperation in the endeavour to induce the chemists of other districts who are not already moving in this matter to do so, so that those who may chance to live on or near the boundary line of a borough or locality where a closing order is in operation may not be at a disadvantage through a neighbouring chemist, who happens to live in a district not under such compulsion, remaining open. We have met with very gratifying success in canvassing the Borough of Lambeth in support of this object.

If chemists in any district who propose to move in this matter write to us we shall be glad to assist them as far as we can.

The following statement will be sent out by circular at the end of this week by the Midland Pharmaceutical Association:

The resolution which was passed at a meeting of chemists held at the University on the 6th inst. has been thoroughly discussed at Council-meetings held on the 20th and 27th. It was then decided to take a vote of the drug-trade as a whole as to the desirability or otherwise of obtaining a closing order for the city of Birmingham. The officers of the Association have interviewed the city authorities, and have been given to understand that there is no immediate hurry, as the inspectors under the Act have not been appointed and the Government authorities have not yet supplied the details for the working of the Act. Your Council have, however, had cards printed "Shops Act, 1911; this establishment will be closed on Wednesdays from 1.30 p.m."—which will be sent you in due course. Will you please fill in, sign, and return the enclosed postcard at your early convenience? Yours faithfully, H. BUCKINGHAM, Hon. Secretary.

The General Purposes Committee of the London County Council submitted at the meeting on Tuesday, March 26, a report on this Act, under which the Council is the local authority for the greater portion of the Metropolitan area. The committee reported that with the approval of the Home Secretary the Council might make arrangements with the borough councils to exercise any of the powers conferred by the Shops Regulation Acts, 1892-1911, and that the Council is empowered to pay the expenses incurred by the borough councils. The Public Control Committee had been consulted, and had expressed the opinion that it is undesirable to disturb existing arrangements under which the borough councils deal with evening closing, and that the borough councils should also administer the new Act as far as it relates to the weekly half-holiday. Recommendations were submitted to give effect to these views, and an amendment by Mr. W. C. Johnson, disagreeing with the suggestion that the matter should be transferred to the borough councils, was negatived, and the recommendations were adopted.

Cancer Research.

On March 27 the Queen visited the Middlesex Hospital, London, W., and opened the new buildings of the Barnato-Joel Cancer Charity, which has been erected out of funds amounting to 250,000*l.* In the research block, which is four storeys in height, the Queen's attention was drawn to a discovery which has been made in the cancer laboratories of the hospital during the past fortnight. Experiments there have proved the existence in very minute quantities of radium in cancer tumours, and her Majesty showed the greatest interest in the evidence which was produced in proof of this. The supply of radium at the hospital is at present 70 milligrams, and more is needed.

International Congress of Applied Chemistry.

The arrangements for the holding in the United States of this congress in September are being pushed forward with vigour. There has now been published a booklet of general information with a programme of excursions and factory visits. The sailings from Europe of the various steamship lines are given, and in some cases there is a list of berths that have been reserved for visitors, with prices of the various cabins. There is also a long list of hotels in New York, with tariff and other particulars, and at the end of the pamphlet is a map of the United States upon which intending visitors can trace out the excursions mentioned. A preliminary list of papers has also been published.

Institute of Pharmacology.

The new building at University College, London, which is to constitute the Institute of Pharmacology, a section of the Medical Institute, was commenced this week. It is to occupy a portion of the old playground of the University College School to the east of the present Institute of Physiology, and it is to accommodate 100 students. The total cost is estimated at 5,500*l.*, of which Mr. Andrew Carnegie has given 5,000*l.* The Institute will contain a lecture-room, a practical laboratory, and research laboratories, besides housing for animals required in experiments. The scheme will include, when completed, an Institute of Anatomy, and the three Institutes will form a compact body of buildings in close connection with the hospital for the study of intermediate medical subjects.

The Coal Strike.

It has been reported that Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. have given a week's notice to 1,000 employes at their factories in Dartford, and that all the rest of the employes are under twenty-four hours' notice. This announcement is a travesty of the facts. As a precautionary measure the firm, like others in the drug-trade, have not overlooked the extreme eventuality (especially the probability of goods outwards being held up more generally by shipping companies), but up to the present have not had any difficulty in maintaining supplies, and there is no immediate prospect of the factory being closed down.

A Veteran's Funeral.

The funeral of the late Mr. William Thirlby, chemist and druggist, Leicester, took place there on March 21 amid many manifestations of respect. The numerous friends present included almost all his colleagues of the diocese. The following pharmacists attended at the service or at the cemetery: Messrs. Blockley, Burford, Clear, Foreman, Goodess, Hearnshaw, Johnson, Pickering, Rowe, and Ward. The Secretary of the "People's Dispensary," to which Mr. Thirlby gave personal support, was also present. A correspondent says it is no empty laudation to say that Mr. Thirlby was given to good works. He was treasurer of the chapel benevolent fund for a quarter of a century, and he was a constant and devoted attendant on his invalid wife, who survives him. To his own craftsmen he was a loyal friend and adviser, and the local Chemists' Association will sadly miss his genial personality and ready service. Mr. Thirlby joined the first Association forty-two years ago, and was always a strong supporter of forward policies.



MR. W. THIRLBY.

Liverpool Notes.

The drug-trade is very quiet at present. One wholesale firm has "suspended" six representatives owing to the coal strike.

It is reported on good authority that Bold Street has been chosen as the most suitable site for the "Rexall" store that the United Drug Co. is contemplating opening in Liverpool.

Wherever one turns to look at chemists' windows in Liverpool, one finds little piles of boric acid and oatmeal, also soap-shreds, illustrating the shows of boric-oatmeal soap that are being made.

Mr. A. Barnett points out that in his paper on Sight-testing (*C. & D.*, March 23, index folio 450) he said that the object of sight-testing is "to make a client see easily, not necessarily clearly."

Manchester Notes.

The meeting of the pharmacists of Manchester, Salford, and district, held at the Victoria Hotel on Wednesday afternoon, was attended by over a hundred gentlemen, and after the meeting had been in progress for about ten minutes an adjournment was made to a larger room. Mr. W. Kirkby spoke at length on the need of organisation and unity among the pharmacists of Manchester, Salford, and surrounding districts. Mr. H. Kemp greatly enlightened those present on the intricacies of the Insurance Act, and showed that the pharmacist's lot will be a happy one if everything goes on as he anticipated. Mr. F. W. Bates spoke on the Shops Act, and appealed to the pharmacists present to pull together and conform with the Act. His proposition was seconded by Mr. J. Cleworth and carried unanimously.

A feature of the meeting was the way in which pharmacists who are not members of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association came forward and gave their names for election as members at the next meeting, over thirty names being given in. Mr. Geo. S. Woolley said he wished to resign the post of president, and expressed the hope that some younger man should be elected, as he finds the duties very onerous owing to his advancing years. Several gentlemen expressed regret at his decision to resign, and spoke in appreciation of the good work he had done during his presidency.

Wine-licences.

At the Blaenau Festiniog adjourned Licensing Sessions the application of Mr. Hugh, chemist and druggist, for renewal of his wine-licence at the Medical Hall, Blaenau Festiniog, was granted.

At the adjourned Brewster Sessions for the Upper Osgoldcross Division of Yorkshire, an off-wine licence was granted to Mr. Wm. Robert Maud, J.P., chemist and druggist, Pontefract, for his branch pharmacy in Aire Street, Knottingley.

Analysts' Affairs.

The Deptford Borough Council have, subject to the approval of the Local Government Board, reappointed Mr. H. G. Harrison, M.A., F.I.C., analyst, at a fee of 10s. per sample, such remuneration to include provision of laboratory, etc., and the making of all reports required by the Council.

The Local Government Board has written to the Swansea Town Council pointing out the desirability of increasing the number of samples analysed by fifty more than the number now authorised. The Health Committee have decided to request the public analyst to submit his minimum terms for analysing the additional fifty samples, stating whether he will undertake to conduct the additional work for a fixed salary or be paid per sample.

The Public Weal.

Mr. Wm. Marshall, F.I.C., has been elected unopposed to the Cheadle and Gatley Urban District Council.

Mr. F. W. Whitwell, chemist and druggist, 283 Lincoln Road, Peterborough, has been elected unopposed to a casual vacancy for the All Saints' Division on the Peterborough County Council.

Mr. Daniel Arnott, of Pontypridd, President Glamorgan Valleys Association, is being returned unopposed to a seat on the local Urban District Council, his opponent having withdrawn his nomination.

Mr. Herbert Frank Cook, J.P., chemist and druggist, 33 Victoria Road, New Chesterton, Cambridge, was re-

turned on March 21 at the head of the poll at the election made necessary by the inclusion of Chesterton within the Borough of Cambridge.

Nominations have been made for the election of the following chemists to their respective Urban District Councils:

Mr. J. Sanders, Crewkerne.

Mr. G. S. Ball, Ph.C., Weston-super-Mare.

Mr. J. R. Jones, Newcastle Emlyn, Glam.

Mr. Jacob Hughes, Glynderwen House, Newcastle Emlyn.

IRISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

Dr. Alexander Gordon, Ph.C., Rathmines, has fractured his right ankle as the result of a motor-car accident.

Mr. Jas. Guiler, Ph.C., Ormeau Road, Belfast, presided on March 22 at the opening ceremony of a bazaar in connection with the Cooke Centenary Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Rodin Johnston, Ph.C., Downpatrick, has been appointed contractor to the Down County Infirmary and Down District Lunatic Asylum for the supply of medicines, dressings, and surgical requirements for twelve months.

The Irish Chemists' Assistants' Association is at a critical stage of its existence. The furniture and fittings of the Association's room have been sold to pay the rent, but this proceeding is held by some of the members to have been unnecessary.

Medicine Messengers.

Regarding the rule made by the Sligo Board of Guardians at a recent meeting (*C. & D.*, March 16, index folio 395) that notices should be displayed in the Sligo Dispensary that children under fourteen years of age would not be supplied with medicine, the Local Government Board has written pointing out that while it is desirable that persons of mature years should be employed for the purpose, it may entail serious inconvenience to the sick if the rule were strictly enforced. It is suggested that no stringent rule should be made, but that the decision in the matter should be left to the medical officer.

Drug and Medical Appliances Contracts.

The following additional tenders have been awarded by Boards of Guardians for the supply of medicines and surgical appliances for the ensuing year:

—	Drugs	Surgical Appliances
Abbeyleix ...	Boileau & Boyd (Dublin), 31½ %	Same contractors, 36½ %
Antrim... ..	Boileau & Boyd, 32½ %	Connor & Sons (Newry) 39 %
Bailieborough	Boileau & Boyd ...	Same contractors
Ballymahon ...	Boileau & Boyd, 31½ %	Same contractors, 36½ %
Castlebar ...	Boileau & Boyd, 31 %	Adamson & Co. (Ballyna), 38½ %
Claremorris ...	Boileau & Boyd, 31½ %	Same contractors, 39 %
Dunshaughlin	Boileau & Boyd, 31½ %	Same contractors, 36½ %
Ullingford ...	Boileau & Boyd, 27½ %	Same contractors, 36½ %

SCOTTISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

The Arbroath Town Council is to agree to the local chemists' petition for a closing order under the Shops Act, 1911, as reported in the *C. & D.*, March 16.

Claims against the late John Gerrie or his firm (Strachan & Gerrie, chemists, 158 Rosemount Place, Aberdeen) should be sent to Mr. G. A. Smith, solicitor, 147 Union Street, Aberdeen.

Educational Institute Examination.

We are asked to call attention to the fact that the examination of the Educational Institute of Scotland, the certificates of which are accepted by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain for registration as an apprentice or student, will be held in Edinburgh, Glasgow, London, Liverpool, and Dublin, in April, July, and September of this year. Full particulars in regard to it may be obtained from the Secretary, Mr. Hugh Cameron, M.A., 34 North Bridge Street, Edinburgh.

Edinburgh.

A plebiscite is to be taken of Edinburgh shopkeepers with the view of finding out what day would be most suitable for the half-holiday under the Shops Act. Eleven different trades and shopkeepers had sent communications to the Town Council with suggestions as to the day on which the half-holiday should be fixed. There is a considerable expression of opinion in favour of one day for the whole city.

Lord Lister has bequeathed to Edinburgh University his insignia of the Order of Merit, and of the Prussian Order Pour le Mérite, the medals received from the Royal Society and other learned bodies, the diplomas conferred by scientific bodies, and various honorary gifts and distinctions, including the caskets containing the freedom of the cities of London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow, and of the Merchant Taylors' Company.

Glasgow and the West.

Mr. William G. Boyd, chemist and druggist, West George Street, Kilmarnock, has removed to 68 Portland Street.

The Glasgow and West of Scotland Chemists' Association has published particulars in regard to a competition for assistants and apprentices for the Association prize of three guineas to senior students, and a guinea for junior students. The subjects for seniors are materia medica, pharmacy, and business knowledge; and for juniors materia medica, poison law, and pharmacy, and either business knowledge or prescriptions. Copies of the syllabus can be obtained from Mr. J. H. Hart, 362 Dumbarton Road, Partick. Entries must be effected not later than June 1.

FRENCH NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

CUSTOMS TARE REGULATIONS.—The President of the Republic has signed a decree further postponing the application of the new Customs weighing regulations till August 1 (see *C. & D.*, November 4, index folio 668, and December 16, index folio 872). It is reported that on June 1 a fresh decree will be issued enacting certain modifications in the new regulations in favour of importers. These modifications would then take effect on August 1 together with the new regulations themselves.

ACADEMICAL ELECTION.—Professor Mechnikoff, Assistant Director of the Pasteur Institute, Paris, was elected a foreign member of the Paris Academy of Sciences at the meeting of that body this week, in place of the late Sir Joseph Dalton Hooker. Sir David Gill and Sir Joseph Norman Lockyer were also among the candidates. M. Mechnikoff is a native of Kharkoff, Russia, by birth, and although he has resided many years in Paris he has not adopted French nationality. He has, of course, a world-wide renown by reason of his remarkable bacteriological researches.

CUSTOMS EXPERTS.—The "experts" who decide knotty technical points in French Customs tariff disputes are officially nominated by the Chamber of Commerce, but when this body annually revises its list it pays the trade associations the compliment of consulting them on the subject. The matter was thus brought up at the last meeting of the Paris Wholesale Druggists' Association, which was asked to revise a list submitted. The Association found the list entirely satisfactory as far as it went, but the addition of two names was formally proposed—i.e., that of M. Crinon, for "pharmacy, drugs, and herbal remedies," and M. Salle, for "medicinal herbs, leaves, roots, flowers, and barks."

A RADIUM STANDARD.—An International Commission, consisting of Professors Hahn and Geitel (Germany), Rutherford and Soddy (England), Meyer and Sweidler (Austria-Hungary), Boltwood and Eve (United States and Canada), and Curie and Debierne (France), which was appointed at the Radiography and Electricity Congress in Brussels in 1910, is meeting shortly at Mme. Curie's laboratory to discuss the question of a standard for radium. Mme. Curie was commissioned to prepare the standard, which she did last August from specially purified radium chloride contained in a sealed tube, the quantity, about 2 centigrams, being taken as the standard weight. The tube has connected with the interior a small platinum wire to allow of the passage of electricity developed by the contents, and so prevent the radium fracturing the glass. The standard will probably be deposited at the International Bureau of Weights and Measures, and similar standards will be distributed to various scientific bodies, so that a comparison may be made of the power of penetrating lead of any sample of radium against the standard. The cost of the standard will probably be defrayed by contributions from the Governments of the various countries represented by the Commission. The importance of establishing a standard is acknowledged from both a scientific and commercial point of view, and because the greater part of the free radium in the world is being employed in medicine. The unit of radium emanation, or "curie," is also to be considered.

INDIA AND THE EAST.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondents.)

THE COCAINE HABIT.—A correspondent of "The Punjabee" writes: "During my last visit to Delhi I noticed that many people were in the habit of using cocaine in betel-leaves. I tried to find out the source from which they obtained cocaine, but without success."

Mr. TSUNAHIKO TANAKA, pharmacist, who has been specially sent to Germany to study pharmaceutical science and practical pharmacy by the Japanese Minister of Agriculture, returned to Japan in January. He will be sent by the Minister to the various provinces of Japan to place his knowledge before his *confères* in business.

LEMONGRASS OIL.—It is reported (says the "Indian Agriculturist") that a remunerative lemongrass-oil industry is being carried on in the Walwanad Taluk, South Malabar, where this particular grass is in abundance at all seasons of the year. Oil worth Rs. 10,000 is said to have been manufactured and imported to Cochin recently for the purpose of shipment to Europe.

FIRE.—A big fire occurred at Messrs. Ch. & A. Böhringer's stores, Slave Island, Ceylon, on March 6, the greater part of a two-storey building being burned down. A large supply of chemicals used in rubber manufacture, including acetic acid in glass jars, was among the destroyed produce, which also included cinchona, tea, cardamoms, rubber, cacao, etc. The damage is estimated at between Rs. 30,000 and Rs. 40,000.

MORPHINE AND COCAINE CONTROL.—The "Gazette of India" of February 17 contains a notification laying down certain rules to be observed with a view to regulating the traffic in morphine, cocaine, and cocaine substitutes in the cantonments of Mhow, Neemuch, and Nowgong and in the Indore Residency Bazaars in Central India. Under these rules, *inter alia*, the importation and sale of coca are prohibited. The importation of morphine, cocaine, and cocaine substitutes by means of the post or from foreign territory by land is also prohibited. The importation and exportation of morphine, etc., by other means are permitted only by licensed druggists and medical practitioners under a pass obtained from certain specified persons. The rules are not applicable to—(1) the importation, transport, possession, or sale on behalf of the Government, (2) to mouth lozenges or tablets containing less than $\frac{1}{16}$ gr. of cocaine in each, and (3) to cocaine used in impure solution in ointments for local application or made nauseous to the taste.

SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS.

(From "C. & D." Correspondents.)

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of the seven Societies and Associations of Chemists in British South Africa, as well as to other chemists in business there.

Cape Province.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF CAPE PROVINCE.—We have received a copy of the report of the annual general meeting of this Society, an innovation which is now sent to every member. It takes the form of a pamphlet of eight pages (10½ by 8). Lists of officers for the year and of those present at the meeting are given first. The reports of the Secretary and Treasurer follow. Then come the presidential address (3½ pages) and results of voting for Councillors. The last two pages are devoted to accounts. These are of a type which allow members a full insight into the state of the Society's finances.

Natal.

A MARITZBURG MERCHANT uses the Government notification regarding the discontinuance of the official supply of sodium arsenite, etc. (*C. & D.*, March 2, index folio 318), to circularise shopkeepers, and points out that the notice enables them to meet any demand for compounds which should exist in the district.

PROPOSED DUTY ON GLYCERIN.—The report of the Commission appointed by the Union Government to inquire into the conditions of trade and industries recommends that a duty of 25 per cent. be placed on refined glycerin, 5 per cent. on dynamite glycerin, crude to be admitted free. A duty on meat-extracts and nutrient wines is also recommended.

Rhodesia.

BUSINESS CHANGE.—Mr. J. K. McGhie, former manager for Lennon, Ltd., at Stellenbosch, Cape Province, has opened a pharmacy at Victoria, Northern Rhodesia.

Transvaal.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BILL.—It was the intention of the Government to introduce at an early date a Bill making it compulsory for chemists and doctors to use only the metric system in dispensing and retailing drugs and medicines. The Pharmaceutical Society of the Transvaal have the assurance of the Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, that the matter is shelved. Chemists throughout the Union will be pleased to know that no alteration on existing law will take place.

ARMY DEFENCE BILL.—The Army Defence scheme at present before Parliament has been considered by the Pharmaceutical Society of the Transvaal, and steps are being taken to obtain for chemists certain concessions—viz., exemption from military training under certain conditions, option of joining any branch of the service, and that pharmacists be not compelled to serve in the Army Medical Corps. Also, while acting in professional capacity as dispensers, the chemist should be accorded the rank of a subaltern, which status is to be granted to doctors and dentists.

OUR AMERICAN LETTER.

(Special Correspondence to the "C. & D.")

Sweet Oil.—A decision of the Department of Agriculture (Food Inspection Decision 139) declares that sweet oil is olive oil.

Dr. Wiley's Resignation.—The announcement made in the *C. & D.* last week that Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, chief chemist of the United States Department of Agriculture, has resigned, has now been confirmed. Dr. Wiley has issued a lengthy valedictory statement, in the course of which he states that when the President exonerated him a few months ago from serious charges made against him by his associates in the Department of Agriculture, he was led to suppose the men who made the false accusations would not remain in the Government service; but nothing has since been done, and they have continued to have a powerful voice in the management of the department. It is thought there will now be a clean sweep in the Pure

Food Department. Dr. Wiley proposes to devote the remainder of his life "to the promotion of the principles of civic righteousness and industrial integrity which underlie the Food and Drugs Act, in the hope that it may be administered in the interest of the people at large, instead of that of a comparatively few mercenary manufacturers and dealers." Dr. R. E. Doolittle has been named as Dr. Wiley's temporary successor.

New and Non-official Remedies.—The Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association has issued a circular regarding future recognition of proprietary preparations by the Association. In this it is stated that the following rules apply to the names of such articles:

1. The names of pharmaceutical preparations or mixtures must indicate the most potent ingredients.
2. Names which are in any way misleading will not be accepted.
3. Names which suggest diseases, pathologic conditions, or therapeutic conditions will not be admitted, except as provided under 4.
4. An exception is made for established names of synthetic substances, active principles, and other new substances. For these, if submitted prior to December 31, 1912, therapeutically suggestive names may be admitted, provided that the name has been in actual use prior to December 31, 1912, and provided, further, that the name is not likely to foster self-medication by the laity.

Private Meeting.

Re Wm. Woods & Co., Belfast, Wholesale Druggists.—

A second private sitting in this matter was held at the Bankruptcy Court, Belfast, on March 25, at 11 A.M., for the proof of debts and the confirmation of petitioners' proposal for the future payment of their debts or engagements. This proposal, made by the petitioners and assented to by the majority required by the statute of creditors voting at the first private sitting, was to vest all the partnership assets of the debtors in Mr. William Leslie, C.A., and the Official Assignee of the Belfast Local Bankruptcy Court for realisation, the proceeds of such realisation (after payment of the costs and expenses incidental to the petition therein, the proceedings thereunder, the vesting and realisation of the said assets, the remuneration of the assignee and the trustee, and the preferential claims) to be distributed rateably among the partnership creditors and the separate creditors of the said debtors.

WILLS PROVEN.

MR. RICHARD KER, chemist, Stranraer, who died on December 24 last, left, in addition to real estate, personal estate in the United Kingdom valued at 8,295*l.*

MR. THOS. HANDLEY, Forest Road, Loughborough, chemist and druggist, who died on December 14 last, left estate of the gross value of 6,340*l.*, with net personality 2,009*l.*

MR. JOHN THOMAS SMITH, Wellington, chemist and druggist, who died on February 6, left estate valued at 1,024*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* gross, with net personality 335*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.*

MR. THOMAS JACOB JOHNSON, 35 Middle Hillgate, Stockport, chemist and druggist, who died on February 18, left estate valued at 5,490*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.* gross, with net personality 1,787*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*

MR. WILLIAM MARLEY, Monkseaton, Northumberland, and of Messrs. Marley & Russell, chemists, Newcastle, who died on January 9, left estate of the gross value of 9,396*l.*, with net personality 564*l.*

MR. HENRY SNOWDEN WARD, Golden Green, Hadlow, photographic expert, who died on December 7 last in New York, U.S.A., left estate valued at 857*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* gross, with net personality 108*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.*

MR. EUGENE KARL THEODORE WAGLER, Acre Lane, Brixton, London, S.W., and 62 Leadenhall Street, E.C., drug merchant, who died on March 15, left estate valued at 1,424*l.*, with net personality 1,189*l.*

MR. CHRISTOPHER LUCCOCK METCALFE, Ph.C., 337 Anlaby Road, Hull, who died on January 15, left estate of the gross value of 7,548*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.*, of which 6,609*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.* is net personality, and probate of his will has been granted to his son, Mr. Arthur Pollard Metcalfe, Ph.C.

SIR JOSEPH DALTON HOOKER, Sunningdale, Surrey, who died on December 10 last, left estate of the gross value of 36,801*l.*, of which 32,390*l.* is net personality. Among the bequests are the following: 100*l.* to the Linnean Society; 100*l.* to the Scientific Relief Fund of the Royal Society; his medals and orders to his wife for life, with remainder to the Linnean Society.

LEGAL REPORTS.

TRADE LAW.

"My Grandfather's Tooth-plug" was sold without a patent-medicine licence by Mrs. Eliza Plant, W. White, hair-dresser, and T. Anthony, greengrocer, all of Fleur-de-Lys, and each of them was prosecuted by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise at Blackwood, Mon., last week. Fines of 5s. in each case were imposed by the Magistrates.

A Boots' Carpenter's Accident.—At the Bournemouth County Court last week, Jesse Forward, carpenter, 3 Lytton Road, Bournemouth, made a claim under the Workmen's Compensation Act in respect to an accident (rupture) sustained in the course of his employment with Boots Cash Chemists, Ltd. It was intimated that the respondents disputed liability, but agreed to the award which his Honour made by consent—viz., 40s., and costs.

Tuition-fees. At Belfast Assizes on March 22, before Mr. Justice Boyd, an appeal was brought by Mr. Saml. Templeton, F.I.C., teacher of chemistry, against a decree for 14l. 7s. 10d. given by the Recorder in the County Court in an action brought by Mr. James A. Whitla, Ph.C., against him to recover that amount for tuition (see *C. & D.*, February 24, index folio 287). The decree was affirmed, with costs.

An Unrenewed Licence.—At Bath on January 27, J. H. Jackson, 19 Kingsmead Square, Bath, was ordered to pay a fine of 1l., and costs, for uttering, vending, and exposing for sale dutiable medicines without being licensed so to do. This was under Section 9 of Medicine-stamp Act, 1802, and was reported in the *C. & D.*, February 3, index folio 180. Mr. Jackson not having paid the fine and costs, he was again summoned on Saturday, March 23, to show cause why he should not be committed to prison in default. He did not appear, and an Excise officer explained that Mr. Jackson had written to him stating that he considered the amount of the fine excessive and that the offence was a trumpery one. It was explained that the Magistrates have no power to grant the defendant time to pay, and they decided that the defendant should be committed for fourteen days failing payment of 1l. 8s.

"Safest, Surest, Purest, and Best."—At the Cardiff Police Court on March 21, William Trimmell, herbalist, was summoned at the instance of the Commissioners of Customs and Excise for failing to stamp certain pills. These were labelled "Head and Stomach Pills," and the prosecution contended that they were a proprietary medicine for a specific ailment; but Mr. G. L. Forsdike, for the defendant, submitted that the description was merely a label necessary to distinguish them from other pills, therefore the pills were exempt. The Stipendiary (Mr. T. W. Lewis) said the question was whether the description "safest, surest, purest, and best" as applied to the pills implied a beneficial action on any specific part of the human body. The same description might be applied to whisky, but it was obvious that whisky was not always beneficial. His Worship held that the authorities had not proved their case, and dismissed the summons.

"Premier" Ointment.—At West Ham Police Court, before Mr. Gillespie, on March 25, Elizabeth Alice Filmer, Ravenscroft Road, Canning Town, was fined 20s., and costs, on each of two summonses, for selling un-stamped and without a licence a box of "Premier" ointment. Mr. A. D. Stocks, who prosecuted on behalf of the Commissioners of Customs and Excise, explained that the defendant had last November sold the preparation from door to door. It was described as a "healing, antiseptic soothing ointment for all skin troubles," which was "the world's cure" for a dozen complaints. An inspector of Excise purchased some, and warned her, but she did not stop selling, so on February 1 another officer went to her house and bought three and a half dozen boxes of the ointment, and was given a number of handbills advertising its virtues. Defendant said she was ignorant at the time that she was doing any wrong. She had a pedlar's licence, and thought that was all she needed.

High Court Cases.

Unless when otherwise stated these cases have been heard in the High Court of Justice, London.

GILLETTE SAFETY-RAZOR CASE.

On Friday, March 22, Mr. Justice Parker continued the hearing in the Chancery Division of the action brought by the Gillette Safety-razor Co., whose English works are at Leicester, against the Anglo-American Trading Co., of London, and Messrs. Bent & Parker, of Birmingham. The

action was to restrain the defendants from infringing plaintiffs' letters patent for safety-razors, and the defence was that the patent had been anticipated by other previous inventions, and was therefore void because of want of subject-matter. His Lordship reserved his judgment.

HOMMEL'S HÆMATOGEN.

The hearing of the motion in the action *Aktiengesellschaft Hommel's Hæmatogen v. Hommel and others (C. & D., March 23, index folio 432)* was resumed by Mr. Justice Eve on March 22. When the hearing was adjourned on March 15, Mr. Walter, K.C., for defendants (Adolf Hommel, jun., Wilhelm Hommel, Max. Goeschen, and A. Hommel & Co., Ltd.), was replying to Mr. Buckmaster, K.C., M.P., who appeared for the plaintiff company. He continued his address on March 22, and Mr. Sebastian followed on the same side, after which Mr. Buckmaster replied, and his Lordship dismissed the motion for an interim injunction. In so doing, Mr. Justice Eve said:

In this action the plaintiffs' right to success depended upon their ability to establish that the defendants were so marketing their goods as to lead the public to believe that they were the goods of plaintiffs. The plaintiffs were the proprietors of a blood-forming tonic and nerve and brain-foods, which they manufactured in Switzerland according to the formula of Dr. Adolf Hommel, and they had for twenty years past sold large quantities of that preparation in this country through agents, and chiefly through wholesale druggists. The preparation was sold in corked and cap-suled bottles enclosed in cardboard cases, and had come to be known in the trade and to the medical profession, as well as to the public, as "Hommel's Hæmatogen" or "Dr. Hommel's Hæmatogen." The evidence established the fact that considerable sums of money had been expended in advertising the preparation under those names, or one of them, and he thought on the evidence as it at present stood the plaintiffs had established the proposition that in general the purchaser who asked for, or ordered, Hommel's Hæmatogen was asking for, or ordering, the plaintiffs' goods.

Plaintiffs made no claim to any exclusive use of the word "hæmatogen," nor in this action did they assert that there was any characteristic, either in the bottle or corking, to which they were alone entitled. The two defendants, Adolf Hommel and Wilhelm Hommel, were nephews of Dr. Adolf Hommel, the head of plaintiff firm, while the third defendant, Max Goeschen, was a chemist; and those three individuals had established at Hanau in Germany, where the plaintiffs also made the preparation for the English market, a manufactory for hæmatogen. The fourth defendant was A. Hommel & Co., which was a limited company registered in England as a private concern and acted as the agent in this country for the sale of the preparation. The introduction of the defendants' preparation took place in England at the latter end of last year, and its advent was heralded by a flourish of advertisements not overloaded with, nor yet altogether devoid of, that picturesque hyperbole and flamboyant mendacity which were inseparable adjuncts sometimes thought to be necessary to the exploitation of nerve-tonics, blood-formers, hair-restorers, and aperients.

He did not think it necessary to consider the effect of those advertisements. The plaintiffs alleged, in fact, that the trade had a widespread impression that the goods so advertised were their goods. Defendants repudiated the suggestion, and as far as he (his Lordship) was concerned he had not sufficient material before him on which to arrive at any satisfactory conclusion on the point whether such mistakes as were made in that respect could be attributed to what Lord Justice Fry once called "the carelessness or stupidity" of plaintiffs' customers or to legitimate use by the defendants of names and words of which the plaintiffs did not, and could not, claim any monopoly. A further examination of those matters at this stage of the case was rendered unnecessary by the attitude which the plaintiffs themselves adopted during the hearing of the motion. Realising, as they must have done on the present affidavits evidence, that they could not ask the Court on an interlocutory application to hold that the defendants had, in fact, been guilty of passing off their hæmatogen as the hæmatogen of the plaintiffs, and realising, further, that as matters at present stood they could not claim interlocutory relief on the ground that defendants had adopted a bottle or capsule absolutely copied or an imitation of their bottle, the plaintiffs had quite frankly, and it appeared to him almost of necessity, based their claim for relief primarily, if not wholly, on the use of defendants of the name "Hommel." Substantially, then, the plaintiffs' claim for an order was founded on the assertion that the use of the name-

"Hommel" for the sale of hæmatogen must lead to confusion. In that connection he could not put out of his mind that during the hearing of the matter last week, failing other negotiations taking place, he suggested that the parties should adopt some *modus vivendi* until the trial of the action, and the plaintiffs refused to come to any arrangement. He must, therefore, treat the motion on the lines on which it had been opened and fought—viz., that plaintiffs were claiming to be entitled to an injunction against defendants, who were trading in their own name, but against whom it could not be successfully alleged at this stage that they had either appropriated any of the plaintiffs' distinctive features or attempted by any colorable imitation to appropriate the plaintiffs' get-up. That seemed to be a proposition which it was impossible to maintain. Case after case had been cited in which judge after judge had enunciated that this Court would not interfere to prevent a man from using his own name unless he so used it as to lead the Court to the conclusion that he had used it for fraudulent and dishonest purposes, and for filching improperly the trade of the plaintiffs. Nothing had been made out to that effect in this motion, and, therefore, he came to the conclusion that he could not make any order on that motion against the defendants.

The costs, his Lordship added when dismissing the motion, would be costs in the action.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

CHLORINATED LIME.

At Chelmsford Petty Sessions on March 22, before Col. G. W. Wood and other Justices, Parke's Drug-stores, Ltd., were summoned for selling at their Chelmsford branch a certain drug—to wit, chlorinated lime—to the prejudice of the purchaser on February 3 last. Mr. F. P. Sutthery, who appeared for the defendants, entered a formal plea of guilty.

Mr. J. E. Seager, prosecuting on behalf of the Essex County Council, said Mr. Mitchell, an assistant inspector under the Acts, went into the defendants' shop and asked for 3 lb. of chlorinated lime, and was served by the manager with a 2-lb. and a 1-lb. bottle. The contents were mixed in the usual way and divided into three lots for analysis. The analyst's certificate stated that the sample contained only 4½ per cent. of available chlorine, whereas chlorinated lime should contain 33 per cent. The sample had thus lost about 85 per cent. of the available chlorine, which rendered it practically a worthless article. Chlorinated lime, he continued, is a drug used for certain lotions and as a disinfectant, and unless it is up to standard it is absolutely useless and might have a serious effect upon a patient, who might become worse through the drug having no effect. Enormous profits might be made if this deficient article were allowed to be sold; but it was not suggested that in this particular case the defendants had made a profit out of it, because it was an article which deteriorated if kept for a considerable time. Instead of keeping it in large quantities, it should be got in small quantities.

Mr. Sutthery said the assistant in the shop was asked to supply chlorinated lime. These stores were about the only stores in the town to sell the article in anything like bulk, and every precaution was taken to endeavour to keep the article in the best possible manner, so that it should deteriorate as little as possible. It was bought from one of the very best makers, who guaranteed that it was of the best strength and quality possible. Defendants did not keep a big stock, and that which was sold to the inspector was received only last October.

Mr. Seager pointed out that the 1-lb. bottle was not guaranteed.

Mr. Sutthery said that was so. The guarantee appeared on the 2-lb. jar, and owing to the inspector mixing the two lots the defendants' position was altered. The local manager had been in the business for many years, and had never been asked for what was technically known as chlorinated lime as distinguished from the ordinary chloride of lime powder. He (Mr. Sutthery) was advised that it was not a drug within the meaning of the Act, but he found that it was, strictly speaking, a drug. The lime was sold by the defendants believing it to be a genuine article, which had been purchased in specially sealed bottles of the best makers. As for enormous profits, that was a most improper remark for Mr. Seager to make. The

sample had become deteriorated, but not within the knowledge of the defendants. He would ask the Bench to say that there was no intent to cheat and defraud, for it was a great misfortune to the manager that he had the stuff in stock to sell.

Dr. J. C. Thresh, the medical officer of health for the County of Essex, said chlorinated lime and chloride of lime are practically the same thing. It is used for making lotions, especially for discharging sores, and for diphtheria. It is chiefly used as a disinfectant, and as such was largely used. He was very much concerned that things like this, which are absolutely worthless, should be palmed off as disinfectants, for chloride of lime of good quality is probably the best disinfectant there is. If properly made and properly corked, it would keep good without losing its strength for many years. Cheap imitations are made. By mixing it with a considerably larger quantity of lime it would keep and is more convenient for sale, but the strength is reduced. In hermetically sealed tins it keeps for ever. Even in a bottle corked like that in which the defendants sold it it would keep all right for many years. If bought like that last October it might have lost ¼ per cent., so that the percentage then would have been about 4¾.

The Chairman: You can smell it through the cork. Does that mean that evaporation is going on continuously?

Dr. Thresh: Yes; but very slowly.

Mr. Sutthery: We are not morally to blame, but we are legally.

The Bench imposed a fine of 5*l.* and 5*s.* 3*d.* costs, but declined to allow the prosecuting solicitor's fees.

Pharmacy Acts (Ireland).

ILLEGAL COMPOUNDING.

In the Belfast Summons Court, before Sir Andrew Newton-Brady, R.M., Messrs. A. J. McKenna, M.D., S. P. Kerr, and Samuel Gibson, on March 20, William Gardiner, druggist, 64 York Road, Belfast, was summoned, at the instance of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, for having compounded and sold a medical prescription and for keeping open shop for that purpose. Mr. Joseph Donnelly appeared for the Society, and Mr. A. J. Lewis represented the defendant.

Mr. Donnelly stated that Mr. Lewis had informed him that he was willing to take a certain course, and he had authority to fall in with the suggestion. After explaining the nature of the summonses, Mr. Donnelly said that the Society regarded as of considerable gravity the fact that the defendant, a registered druggist, had placed in large letters on his business premises the words "Medical Hall." The Society was under the impression that those words were placed there to deceive the public and lead them to believe that everything that a pharmaceutical chemist might do could be done within those premises. Mr. Lewis had intimated that his client had no wish to deceive the public, and he was quite prepared to have placed upon the windows of his shop the words "No medical prescriptions compounded," showing that there was no authority to compound. Having regard to that, he would be satisfied with a conviction on one of the summonses, on the distinct understanding that within a reasonable time the defendant would have those words placed upon the window.

Mr. Lewis said it was quite true that his client did not desire to deceive the public, and he never had deceived them. The occurrence was a most trivial one. On a bad night a poor woman came into Mr. Gardiner's shop, tendering a most simple cough-mixture prescription, and he said that as it was such a bad night he would not let her go past, but made up the prescription. It was only a matter of 7*d.* Mr. Gardiner had never held himself out to be a compounder. He did not want to remove the words "Medical Hall" because he sold proprietary and patent medicines, and the description "Medical Hall" embraced these. As evidence of his good faith and intention that he did not wish to capture any business he was not entitled to, he was prepared to place on the window the words that were more to the point: "No medical prescriptions compounded."

The Magistrates inflicted a penalty of 5*l.* on the summons for selling the prescription.

Merchandise Marks Act, 1887.**PRECIPITATE OINTMENT.**

The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain succeeded on March 15 in getting T. A. Andrews, 126 Stephendale Road, Fulham, S.W., convicted for selling a boric-acid ointment as "precipitate ointment." A fine of 2*l.*, with 2*l.* 4*s.* costs, was imposed.

ZAMBUK.

At the North London Police Court, before Mr. T. C. Hedderwick, on March 23, John James Huggins, 67 Iseldon Road, Holloway, was summoned for having on the specified dates applied to certain goods a false trade description—to wit, Zambuk—and also with having sold goods bearing a false trade description, in contravention of Section 2 of the 1887 Act. The prosecution was at the instance of Messrs. C. & E. Fulford, Ltd., manufacturers of Zambuk, for whom Mr. Bairstow, K.C., appeared, and Mr. Whitgrove was for the defence. A plea of not guilty was entered.

Mr. Bairstow, in explaining the case for the prosecution, stated that the summonses had relation to an article described as Japp's Balm, which was sold for Zambuk, and bore a description calculated to deceive.

Evidence as to the offence was given by Solomon Ginsberg, chemist, Church Street, Shoreditch, and John Hill, chemist, St. John's Road, Hoxton, who deposed to giving on behalf of Mr. Ivatts orders for Zambuk to the Japp Company, under which title the defendant traded.

Mr. Joseph Ivatts, London manager, Messrs. C. & E. Fulford, Ltd., in answer to Mr. Bairstow, stated that on February 27 and March 1 he sent to defendant's premises the orders for the goods referred to. He received parcels containing the articles produced in court. The wording on the box of the substance which was sold for Zambuk was "Japp's Balm. Guaranteed made from the formula based on the analysis made for the British Medical Association on Zambuk." The receipts submitted bore defendant's signature, but the wording was in the same handwriting as that which he knew to be the signature of defendant.

Wm. Harvey and Frederick William Smith spoke to taking the orders given them by Mr. Ivatts to the premises of defendant at 67 Iseldon Road, and to there receiving the goods submitted.

This concluded the evidence for the prosecution, and Mr. Whitgrove submitted that it did not show any attempt to deceive the public since Japp's Balm was plainly printed on the card and on the boxes.

Mr. Bairstow having replied, the Magistrate thought there was evidence on which the case should be submitted to a jury. He therefore remitted the case to the London Sessions, and ordered the witnesses to appear there on April 2.

BANKRUPTCY REPORTS.

Re George Little, Moffat, Chemist and Druggist.—Messrs. Cormack & Byers, Lockerbie, have reported to the creditors that the statement of affairs shows liabilities amounting to 480*l.*, of which 460*l.* is in respect of trade creditors. The assets are valued at 493*l.*, less preferable claims, 10*l.*—net estimated assets 483*l.*, showing a small apparent surplus, subject to realisation and expenses. The valuation of the assets is based on the assumption that the business is sold as a going concern. The debtor is proprietor of the premises in which the business is carried on, and he has two life-policies for 100*l.* each, but both property and policies are apparently mortgaged to their full value. The estate is being wound up under the trust-deed.

Re Richard Collings, 1 South Street, New North Road, Islington, Drug-vendor and Dental Mechanic.—The first meeting of the creditors was held at the London Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. Daniel Williams, Assistant Official Receiver, on March 25, when accounts were submitted showing liabilities 399*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.* and assets valued at 43*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* The Chairman reported that it appeared from the debtor's statements that in 1906 he entered into a verbal partnership with a Mr. Edwards at the above address. He bought his partner out in December 1909 for 190*l.*, which was to be paid by instalments of 8*l.* per month. The debtor continued the

business until the middle of February, when in consequence of being in arrear with his instalments he gave up possession to his late partner. The business has since been closed. Then, in February, a judgment was obtained against the debtor in connection with a breach-of-promise action to which fact, combined with bad trade, the debtor attributes his failure and insolvency. In the absence of any offer, the case was left in the hands of the Official Receiver, to be wound up in the ordinary course of bankruptcy, the debtor's public examination being fixed for April 24.

DEED OF ARRANGEMENT.

Stephens, David, 9 and 14 Carmarthen Street, Llandilo, Chemist.—Trustee: D. J. Morris, Overdale House, Clarence Road, Llandilo. Dated, March 18; filed, March 25. Secured creditors, 214*l.*; liabilities unsecured, 421*l.*; estimated net assets, 66*l.* Assignment upon trust to realise with a view to payment of a composition of 5*s.* in the pound. The creditors include W. Sutton & Co. (18*l.*); Mrs. M. Stephens, Llandilo (500*l.*).

GAZETTE.**Partnerships Dissolved.**

THOMPSON, F. E., and HILL, J. G., Walsall, analytical and consulting chemists, under the style of Frank E. Thompson.

WEBB, F., and LYTH, H. A., 2 Queen Street and 4 King Street, Newcastle-under-Lyme, surgeons and general medical practitioners, under the style of Webb & Lyth.

WILSON, J. A., and DAVIE, N., Langley Moor, Durham, physicians and surgeons, under the style of Wilson & Davie.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.**RECEIVING ORDERS.**

HAYTHORNTHWAITE, W., Docking, Norfolk, chemist.

MCQUEEN, J. F., 12 Royal Terrace, Southend, Essex, doctor of medicine.

ADJUDICATIONS.

BETTS, R. S., Lucknow, Beechey Road, Bournemouth, L.R.C.P.

HAYTHORNTHWAITE, W., Docking, Norwich, chemist.

MARKS-MULTERER, J. (described in the receiving order as J. Multerer), Eagle Street, Holborn, a director of the Safety Chemical Co., Ltd.

LIMITED COMPANIES.**New Companies Registered.**

The letters P.C. mean Private Company within the meaning of the Companies Act, 1907, and R.O., Registered Office.

G. P. FAIRMAN & SON, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 10*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of a pharmaceutical chemist and druggist carried on by G. P. Fairman at 24 Vine Place, Sunderland. G. P. Fairman is the first manager, with 250*l.* per annum.

LIVERPOOL DENTAL HOSPITAL (the word "Limited" is omitted from the title by licence of the Board of Trade).—Registered with an unlimited number of members, each liable for 10*s.* in the event of winding-up. Objects: To take over the assets and liabilities of the unincorporated association known as the "Liverpool Dental Hospital."

LUBRICUM CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 2,000*l.* Objects: To carry on the business of a manufacturer of and dealer in horse, cattle, sheep, poultry, and dog medicines, farm and stock-keepers' requisites, etc., carried on by R. C. Markham at Crown Works, Crane Wharf, King's Road, Reading, as the "Lubricum Co." R. C. Markham is the first managing director.

CHEMICAL PRODUCTS SYNDICATE, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of iodine, iodides, bromine, bromides, potassium chloride, potassium sulphate, ammonium sulphate and salts, etc., and to adopt an agreement with C. White. The first directors are C. White, A. H. Cochrane, and T. W. Reely. R.O., 36 Walbrook, E.C.

ERNEST BICKERSTETH FRX, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 3,000*l.*, in 10*l.* shares (200 6 per cent. cumulative preference). Objects:

To take over the business of photographers, dealers in photographic materials and appliances carried on by E. B. Fry and W. Barker at Shipley, Yorks, as "Ernest Bickersteth Fry." The first directors are E. B. Fry and W. Barker. R.O., 110 Pratt Street, Camden Town, London, N.W.

Company News.

SADLER & Co., LTD.—The directors announce an interim dividend of 57.85*d.* per share on the ordinary 1*l.* shares.

PHOENIX VETERINARY SUPPLIES, LTD.—To be voluntarily wound-up. Liquidator, Mr. J. W. Hinks, 115 Colmore Row, Birmingham.

HYGIENIC SYPHON Co. (1910), LTD.—In the Chancery Division on March 26, Mr. Justice Neville heard the petition of Mr. J. D. Marshall for the compulsory winding-up of the Hygienic Syphon Co. (1910), Ltd. Mr. Rowlands stated that it was a creditors' petition, which had stood over to enable the company to put its affairs into order. It had not been able to do so, and he therefore asked for the usual order. Counsel for the company did not oppose, and his Lordship made the usual compulsory order.

CAPSULOIDS, LTD.—In the Chancery Division on March 26, the action of Opera Omnia, Ltd., against Capsuloids (1909), Ltd., was again mentioned to Mr. Justice Warrington. Mr. Draper said that his Lordship appointed a receiver *ex parte* on March 15. He was now instructed that after that date the parties had been in negotiation, and had been trying to arrange the matter.—His Lordship: There is no receiver now?—Mr. Draper: That is so. Nothing has, in fact, been done on the order your Lordship made. The defendants have now appeared, and I ask for leave to serve notice of motion for a receiver on Friday next.—His Lordship pointed out that no leave was necessary. The plaintiffs could serve their notice of motion, and the matter would come on in the ordinary course.

UNITED CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.—The second annual general meeting was held at the Cannon Street Hotel, London, E.C., on March 21, Mr. Harold Miller (Chairman) presiding. The remuneration of directors was a matter arising out of the minutes of the last meeting. By a resolution passed *nem. con.* it was decided to pay 150*l.* to Messrs. H. Miller and J. G. Jackson as an honorarium for special services rendered, with another 50*l.* for division among the remaining directors. In moving the adoption of the accounts and annual report (C. & D., March 23, index folio 434), the Chairman said that it could now be fairly claimed that Ucal is getting on its feet. The returns were steadily increasing, and the turnover, instead of being 60 per cent. non-bonus goods as in the first fifteen months, included in the period under review nearly 70 per cent. of bonus articles. The membership was 381. The heavy carriage expenses (5 per cent.) were chiefly through orders being so small, but these were getting larger. Mr. Cadge seconded the motion. In the discussion which ensued the question of bonus arose. It was decided not to give a bonus at present. The report and accounts were then passed unanimously. It was also resolved not to increase the directorate. After the close of the official business, Mr. L. Moreton Parry said that he had to call attention to a mean act of revenge—the imposition of a 5*l.* penalty upon Mr. Gilbert Jackson's assistant for selling a pennyworth of laudanum while Mr. Jackson was at the Ucal factory. The Pharmaceutical Society, he said, had persecuted one of its own members from information given through petty spite. The Society ought to help and not to hinder, and he called upon Ucalites to let the Society know that when it attacked a Ucal member it attacked Ucal as a body. He had pleasure in handing over 5*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* subscribed in fourpences by Ucal members, along with the correspondence arising out of the appeal, to make good the penalty paid by Mr. Jackson. Mr. Jackson thanked the members for their present, which came to him as a surprise.

BIRTHS.

APLIN.—At Bay View, Irishtown, Sandymount, on March 10, the wife of Edgar B. Aplin, registered druggist, of the Ringsend Drug Hall, of a daughter.

GRUBB.—At 9 Daisy Terrace, Waterford, on March 8, the wife of Leopold H. Grubb, Ph.C., of twin children (boy and girl).

HAY.—At 23 High Street, Banff, on March 25, the wife of James Hay, chemist and druggist, of a daughter.

WILSON.—At Commerce Street, Inch, on March 22, the wife of James Munro Wilson, chemist and druggist, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

ROSS—ANDERSON.—At Old Greyfriars' Parish Church, Edinburgh, on March 23, by the Rev. A. B. Grant, B.D., John M. Ross, chemist, Natal, to Isabella (Belle), third daughter of the late Mr. Andrew Anderson, Edinburgh.

DEATHS.

DAYMOND.—On March 12, Mr. Samuel Daymond, chemist and druggist, Camelford, Cornwall, aged sixty-four. Mr. Daymond passed the Modified examination in 1872.

FOSTER.—On March 20, Mr. Frederick Francis Foster, for twenty years dispenser at the General Hospital, Birmingham, aged sixty-six.

HESS.—At Leeds, on March 23, Dr. Adolph Hess, of Leeds and Filey. Dr. Hess was managing director of Messrs. A. Hess & Bros., stearin and glycerin manufacturers, Leeds. He studied at Heidelberg University under Professor Bunsen, and on coming to England founded the works which bear his name. He had also been a director of the Queensierr Chemical Works, formerly carried on by Messrs. Joseph Turner & Co., for twenty-eight years. Dr. Hess leaves a widow and eight children. His eldest son succeeds him as managing director of A. Hess & Bros.

LLEWELLIN.—At Hamilton Terrace, Milford Haven, on March 24, the infant daughter of Mr. J. H. Llewellyn, chemist-optician, aged ten days.

MCALLAN.—At Buckie, on March 24, Mr. William McAllan, for many years manager with Messrs. Gibson & Co., chemists, Leith Street, Edinburgh, aged forty-four.

SMITH.—At Clay Cross, on March 25, Mr. John Smith, chemist, High Street, aged seventy-one. He filled the office of churchwarden until recently, and was much respected, being known locally as "Chemist" Smith.

THOMPSON.—At Boscombe, Bournemouth, recently, Mr. Edward Thompson, chemist and druggist, formerly in business at 20 Woolcomber Street, Dover, aged eighty-four. Mr. Thompson retired about three years ago and went to reside at Bournemouth.

VINE.—At 30 Fratton Road, Portsmouth, on March 20, from bronchial pneumonia, Mr. John Vine, chemist and druggist, aged seventy-six.

POISONING FATALITIES.

EIGHT deaths from poisoning have been reported since our last issue.

Ammonia.—At Burnley, Phyllis Cleasby (4) drank, with fatal results, some ammonia from a bottle which had been left on the kitchen sink.

Arsenic.—At the inquest held at Nottingham on Francis Bramley (39), fitter, who died after eating a herring, a verdict of death from arsenical poisoning was returned. The jury found that there was no evidence to show how the poison got into the body.

Laudanum.—At Belfast, John Martin (26) committed suicide by taking this poison.

Mercury.—"Death from septic pneumonia, consequent upon ulceration of the mouth through using mercurial ointment," was the verdict returned by a Halifax coroner's jury relative to the death of William Shaw (58), labourer.

Prussic Acid was the agent used for self-destruction by John Gordon at Conway.

Spirit of Salt.—Joseph Collins (36), flower-seller, killed himself at Dover by taking this corrosive fluid.—Mrs. Soper died in the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary from spirit-of-salt poisoning.—The self-inflicted death of Katie Salomans (50), wife of a cap-maker, of Aldgate, London, E.C., was due to the same poison. During the inquiry a poison-label was produced which, it was stated, some dispensers in the Jewish quarter always attached to bottles in addition to the ordinary labels. The Coroner remarked that he had never seen such a label before. It appeared to have printed upon it a skull and crossbones, a grave and a cross, and the word "death" in Hebrew.

TRADE NOTES.

EURESOL PRO CAPILLIS is a perfumed form of euresol for hair-washes introduced by Messrs. Knoll & Co., 8 Harp Lane, London, E.C., who will send full particulars and formulas to any of our readers on application.

PULTOGEN is an external application for superseding poultices in regard to the removal of accumulations of seous fluids. The Pultogen Co., 23 Market Street, Manchester, call attention to their product in this issue.

AGENCIES.—Manufacturers of special pharmaceutical preparations or proprietaries have the opportunity of securing, through Messrs. A. S. Wehner & Co., Bath House, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C., a special agent in Central Germany.

SHOP-FITTINGS.—Messrs. R. Hovenden & Sons, Ltd., Berners Street, W., and City Road, E.C., London, inform us that they are now specialising in chemists' shop-fittings, including shop-fronts, bottles, and the many items required in furnishing fully a pharmacy.

THE RICE RUPTURE-APPLIANCE.—Messrs. W. S. Rice, Ltd., 8 and 9 Stonecutter Street, London, E.C., are offering in our advertising columns special terms to chemists in connection with their elastic rupture-appliances, of which they will be pleased to send full particulars to any of our readers.

EASTER HOLIDAYS.—Messrs. T. & H. Smith, Ltd., 22 City Road, London, E.C., are closing their warehouses from April 5 to 8 inclusive.—Messrs. Thomas Christy & Co., 4, 10, and 12 Old Swan Lane, London, E.C., will close their offices and warehouses from Thursday evening, April 4, until Tuesday morning, April 9. On the latter date the firm will close at 4 P.M.

AN ILLUSTRATION and description of Messrs. Jno. H. Smith & Co.'s new factory in Lover's Lane, Newark, are given in the "Newark Advertiser." The main building is 150 ft. long and 40 ft. wide, and consists of two storeys. The latest machinery for simplifying the production of fly-catching devices has been introduced. The grounds, which cover over an acre, have been planted with fruit-trees.

WITH'S PLANT-FOOD.—The With's Chemical Manure Co., Hereford, specialise in manures for horticulturists, and at this season of the year, when Nature awakes, the demand for their goods is always brisk if steps are taken to push the sale. The cleanly form of With's manures makes them particularly suited for sale by chemists, and the sale is helped by the distribution of pamphlets and circulars which the company offer to retailers.

"EDWARDS' DENTAL QUARTERLEY."—The first number of this publication, dated January, has been sent us by the Edwards' Dental Manufacturing Co., Ltd., 30 Finsbury Pavement, London, E.C. The aim of the journal is to introduce novelties to the notice of those practising dentistry, and there are given nine pages of notes on dental matters. Those interested can obtain the journal by sending an intimation to that effect to the company.

SULPHO-"VASELINE" is well known as an excellent application for skin diseases of dogs, especially eczema and mange, as well as for the treatment of wounds and other skin injuries. It has received many commendations, and now the Chesham Manufacturing Co., 42 Holborn Viaduct, London, inform us that at the recent Cruft's International Dog Show, held in the Agricultural Hall, London, the preparation was awarded a diploma and gold medal.

P.A.T.A. PRICES.—The following additions have been made to the Protected List during March: Allenburys' woollen feeder-suspender, Ceregen, De Witt's preparations, Greenwich Lemonade Co.'s preparations, Kerfoot's additional preparations, Sphagnoline emollient cream, Violesse brilliantine, Yardley's additional preparations. The new prices for "No. 4711 Eau de Cologne" published in the Protected List do not take effect, we are informed, until May 1.

ASTOL is the name of a new hair-colour restorer which is being introduced to the public by Edwards' Harlene Co., 95 and 96 High Holborn, London, W.C. It is stated

to be a new discovery, and as the advertising campaign is beginning a good demand may be expected. To assist sales showcards, window-slips, and counter-bills are offered and will be sent to any chemist who sends a postcard intimation to the company. Astol is sold at the protected prices of 2s. 9d. and 4s. 6d. per bottle.

BORACISED WAX.—Messrs. Arthur H. Cox & Co., Ltd., Brighton, have placed on the market a toilet-preparation of the topical type, under the name of "boracised wax." It is employed for "restoring" the complexion, the face having been previously washed with warm water. The preparation is packed in enamelled-tin boxes, and labelled either with the name and address of the chemist or in the impersonal style—e.g. "Lejeune et Cie., perfumers to the particular, Paris, London, and New York, U.S.A." It costs 6s. 6d. per dozen, and the makers emphasise the fact that the preparation is non-poisonous.

MR. R. J. REUTER, 5-7 Denman Street, Piccadilly Circus, London, W., announces an advance in the prices of 4711 Eau de Cologne, which the proprietors have been obliged to make consequent on the increased cost of materials. The announcement is made with regret, but in the most attractive fashion that is possible by typographic art. The circular consists of three foolscap sheets printed in gold and colours, the first bearing a facsimile reproduction of the No. 4711 bottle, the second a reduced facsimile of a half-dozen box, and the third is a price-list showing the advertised retail price, the minimum retail price, and the minimum wholesale price, with the discounts according to the quantity purchased and promptness of payment.

THE STANDARD TABLET AND PILL CO., LTD., of Hove, write to us about Mr. A. E. Bailey's suggestions for a coal and coal-products window-display (*C. & D.*, March 23, index folio 444), and offer to send to any customer wishing to utilise the idea free showcards for the display of coal-products, viz.:

(1) The Cause of the Trouble.

(2) Every article in this window contains one or more ingredients obtained from coal.

Also showcards for medicinal and toilet articles appropriate for the display in this connection, such as acetylsalicylic tablets, ammoniated-quinine capsules, saccharin tablets, antitarrh smelling-salts, carbolic tooth-powder, and lavender toilet-ammonia. A remittance of 3d. to pay postage should be sent with the application.

INDIGESTION-TABLETS.—Messrs. W. B. Cartwright, Ltd., Rawdon, Leeds, in introducing indigestion-tablets, have issued a series of showcards. The nine varieties of showcards and labels which we have inspected demonstrate the fact that a good choice is provided, so that the interests of neighbouring chemists selling the same article may not clash. Several of the showcards have affixed to them tubes of undigested and partly digested materials representing the stomach contents—a display which should attract the attention of the public, whose curiosity in this matter is well known. The title of the preparation also varies. The tablets are chocolate-coated and packed in slide-boxes. It should be mentioned that the packages are not stamped, being intended for sale as "known, admitted, and approved remedies" by chemists as privileged persons under the Medicine-stamp Acts.

"KYHO" is the registered name given to a new hair-restorer manufactured and placed on the market by the Kyho Proprietary, 45 Penwortham Road, Streatham, S.W. The title represents the initial letters of "Keep your Hair on." The lotion is prepared from a recipe which has been for generations in the family of one of the proprietors, and whose efficacy has been established during that time, and is now supplemented by present-day experience of several notable people. It is put up in opal bottles with sprinkler top, and enclosed in a plain carton. The special merit of "Kyho" is cleansing the scalp, prevention of the hair falling out, and encouragement of new growth. The retail price is 2s. 6d. per bottle, with a P.A.T.A. minimum of 2s. 3d., and wholesale 21s. per dozen. A special brilliantine and shampoo are also offered. "Kyho" is stocked by, among other wholesale houses, Messrs. William Edwards & Son, May, Roberts & Co., Ltd., F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd., and Sangers.

NEW LINES.—In view of the opening of the photographic season, Messrs. Ayrtton, Saunders & Co., Ltd., Hanover Street, Liverpool, are calling attention to their specialities in packed developers and other solutions. The advertisement of the company in a recent issue gave an illustration of the style of packing, the amber panelled bottles being very effective, while the label employed is an attractive composition in blue and green. The idea of these packed developers differs somewhat from the usual lines in that an endeavour is made to supply solutions made up to the formulæ of the various plate-makers, rather than to adapt a solution for universal use. The series consists of about forty published formulæ, and in addition a toning and fixing solution for P.O.P., the packing being uniform in all cases. The prices are fixed at the same rate for the same size bottles, a standardisation which will tend to simplify the trade in photographic supplies.

P., D. & Co. NOVELTIES.—We have received from Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., Beak Street, London, W., samples of several of their new goods, which illustrate in a striking manner the progress of the medical and pharmaceutical arts. First, there are specimens of the latest additions to the series of ampoules of sterilised solutions for hypodermic use—pituitrin and caffeine and sodium benzoate. There is now a range of twenty-one preparations put up in ampoule form. The pituitrin ampoules provide pituitary extract in a handy form for use as a cardiac stimulant, diuretic, and pressure-raiser. These are of the capacity of 0.5 c.c., others, such as the caffeine and sodium benzoate referred to above, containing 20 minims, or 0.25 gram each of caffeine and sodium benzoate. A series of well-made globules may be referred to next. Proposote globules, containing 10 minims of creosote phenyl propionate, are a ready means of administering creosote, this compound splitting up and yielding creosote in contact with the intestinal secretions, in this way avoiding gastric disturbances. The same may be said of steorosan globules, which contain santalyl stearate, and yield santal oil. Another interesting medicament is thyroprotein tablets, in which the method is utilised of Dr. Beebe, Cornell University Medical School, for preparing the pure proteid of thyroid gland. The process yields a preparation which is permanent and uniformly active. The tablets are issued in the strengths of 1, 2, and 5 per cent., in bottles of fifty, but all weigh uniformly 2 grains.

BUSINESS CHANGES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

BOOTS, CASH CHEMISTS, LTD., are opening a third branch in Market Street, Peterborough.

MR. WILLIAM POPPELREUTER has removed from 54 Portland Street to 10 Piccadilly, Manchester.

MESSRS. ROLLS & SONS, produce brokers, have removed from 45 Fenchurch Street to 9 Mincing Lane, London, E.C.

MR. R. S. ANGUS, of the Stonewell Pharmacy, is moving shortly to larger premises, 24 St. Nicholas Street, Lancaster.

MR. JACOB S. SCHÖN, of Ung.-Brod., Austria, grain and seed exporter, informs us that he has opened a crude-drug department.

THE SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY in Basle, Switzerland, announce that Mr. H. Mohn and Mr. H. Zweifel have been appointed vice-directors of the firm.

MR. C. F. COOKE, chemist and druggist, 27 Bargate, Boston, announces that owing to the expiration of lease he is giving up his Market Place business in Boston.

MR. G. INMAN, chemist and druggist, of Manchester, has purchased the branch of Messrs. Budden & Co., at 44 Dale Street, Liverpool, and is having the pharmacy refitted.

MR. W. A. COOKE, of Newport Pagnell, has bought, through Messrs Brett & Co., of Leicester, the business carried on for over thirty years by the late Mr. J. T. Smith at Market Street, Wellingborough.

MESSRS. F. W. BOWYER & BARTLEET, general produce brokers, 147 Fenchurch Street, London, E.C., announce that Mr. S. D. Roper, who for some years has been associated with Messrs. Marshall & French, will act as one of their representatives on the market.

Contracts.

NOTIFICATION has been made of the settlement of the following contracts:

Barking Urban District Council.—Mr. J. Freeman, chemist, Barking, for six months' supplies of drugs, and for disinfecting-powder at 2*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton; Sanitas Co., Ltd., for a disinfecting-fluid, at 1*s.* per gal.

Bath Charity Trustees.—Whiston & Co., chemists, Bath, appointed druggists to St. John's and Bellott's Hospitals for a year; Mr. H. W. T. Gedge, pharmacist, Bath, appointed druggist to St. Catherine and Magdalen Hospitals for a year.

Boston Guardians.—Mr. E. A. Bailey, Boston, appointed chemist; Mr. T. B. J. Booker, chemist and druggist, Boston, for quinine, at 1*s.* 1½*d.* per oz.; Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Co., Ltd., for Jeyes' sanitary powder, at 29*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

Brentford Guardians.—For half-yearly supplies: Middleton Bros., disinfectants, at 107*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.*; Platt, Hounslow, meat extract, at 289*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*

Burnley Guardians.—Messrs. Hartley, for concentrated mixtures; Corbyn, Stacey & Co., Ltd., for drugs; Mr. G. Foster, chemist, Burnley, for druggists' sundries.

Cambridge Guardians.—Mr. John Evans, chemist, Cambridge, appointed druggist for six months.

Chard Guardians.—Mr. A. W. Sanders, chemist, Chard, for drugs, etc.

Chelmsford Guardians.—Mr. H. Jenkins, for drugs, dressings, etc.

Cheltenham Guardians.—Sanitas Co., Ltd., for roll sulphur at 9*s.* cwt., and disinfectant-fluid at 2*s.* 5½*d.* gal.

Chipping Norton Guardians.—Mr. H. W. G. Morris, chemist, Chipping Norton, for disinfectants.

Dover Guardians.—Mr. A. H. Cartwright, chemist, Dover, for drugs, at 12½ per cent. off Corbyn, Stacey & Co.'s list, and dressings, 30 per cent. discount.

East Grinstead Union.—H. S. Martin, Ltd., chemists, East Grinstead, for chemists' goods, drugs, etc., during the ensuing six months.

Erith Urban District Council.—Corbyn, Stacey & Co., Ltd., London, drugs for the sanatorium; United Alkali Co., Ltd., for manganate of soda.

Eton Guardians.—Griffith & Walden, for chemists' and druggists' goods.

Evesham Guardians.—Mr. W. J. Craven, chemist, Evesham, for the supply of drugs, etc.

Grantham Town Council.—For twelve months' supplies: Hopkinson & Co., chemists, Grantham, for iyal fluid, Quibell's kerosol fluid, chloros fluid, and formalin tablets (Scherer's); Cox & Son, chemists, Grantham, for "U.C.H." fluid and carbolic acid.

Hendon Guardians.—Corbyn, Stacey & Co., Ltd., for a supply of drugs.

Herne Bay Urban Council.—Sonax Disinfectants Co., Ltd., and the Sanitas Co., Ltd., for disinfectants and soaps.

Hollingbourne Guardians.—Mr. F. J. Oliver, chemist, Maidstone, for drugs.

Hull Guardians.—Sayers, Silcox, Cuzner & Co., for medical appliances.

Isle of Thanet Guardians.—Mr. C. Lednor, Ramsgate, for disinfectants, at 3*s.* 6*d.* per gal.

Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital Board.—Mr. C. H. Dixon, Ph.C., Westgate-on-Sea, appointed chemist for a year.

Kettering Guardians.—Mr. W. Hitehman, chemist, Kettering, for drugs; Mr. E. Brown, for surgical dressings.

Lancaster Guardians.—Mr. R. S. Angus, chemist, Lancaster, for the supply of drugs to the Lancaster Workhouse during the half-year ending September 30.

Ludlow Guardians.—Mr. G. Woodhouse, chemist, Ludlow, for the following supplies: Bovril, 4*s.* 7½*d.* per lb.; carbolic soap, 1*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.; cod-liver oil, 6*d.* per lb.; ditto emulsion, 5½*d.* per lb.; quinine, 9*d.* per oz.; and crushed linseed, 2*s.* 7*d.* per 12 lb.

Lewisham Guardians.—Willows, Francis, Butler & Thompson, Ltd., for drugs; S. Maw, Son & Sons, for surgical appliances and instruments; the Galen Manufacturing Co., Ltd., for surgical dressings and druggists' sundries.

Marylebone Borough Council.—Sanitas Co., Ltd., for formalin tablets, at 2*l.* per 20 lb.; Exors. of the late Wm. Sharratt, karzenc. 1*s.* 6*d.* per gal.; A. Boake, Roberts & Co., Ltd., sulphume, in 20-oz. tins, 6*l.* 6*s.* per gross, less 7½ per cent., and 12*s.* per doz. tins, less 7½ per cent.

Merthyr Guardians.—Mr. V. A. Wills, chemist, Merthyr, for the supply of drugs to the Merthyr Workhouse.

Narberth Guardians.—Mr. W. Palmer Morgan, chemist, Narberth, for carbolic powder, at 15*s.* 8*d.* per cwt.

Newent Guardians.—Newent Drug Co., for single trusses at 1*s.* 4*d.*, and double do., 2*s.* 6*d.*; cod-liver oil, 5*s.* 9*d.* gal.; Jeyes' fluid, 4*s.* 9*d.*; carbolic powder (McDougall's A quality), 17*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.; cotton-wool, 11½*d.* per lb.; gamgee tissue, 1*s.* 3*d.* lb. Mr. H. Whittle, chemist, Newent, for lint at 1*s.* 4*d.* per lb.

Richmond-on-Thames Guardians.—Corbyn, Stacey & Co., Ltd., for six months' drug supply, at 23*l.* 19*s.* 2½*d.*

Romford Guardians.—Mr. W. S. Steeples, chemist, Romford, for drugs, at 23*l.* 13*s.* 5½*d.*

Romsey Guardians.—Mr. F. Oram, Ph.C., Romsey, for drugs and surgical dressings.

Smallburgh Guardians.—Mr. A. E. Beeston, chemist and druggist, Norwich, for cod-liver oil, etc.

South Stoneham Guardians.—Mr. C. T. Steel, chemist, Bitterne, for medical requisites.

Southampton Guardians.—Wm. Bates & Co., Ltd., chemists, Southampton, for drugs and chemicals.

Southend Borough Sanatorium.—Mr. F. I. Johnson, chemist, Southend, for Druggists' goods during next year.

Southend Town Council.—A. C. Young & Co., for carbolic acid and chloride of lime; the Sanitas Co., Ltd., for disinfecting fluid and powder; Quibell Bros., for weed-killer.

Southwark Guardians.—At the meeting held on March 21 the annual drug-contract was again considered (*C. & D.*, March 16, index folio 401). The Contracts Committee again recommended the acceptance of the tender from The British Drug Houses, Ltd. Mrs. Stead, who moved that the lowest tender be accepted, said that the contracts habitually went in certain directions. Mr. C. W. Malkin (Vice-Chairman of the Board), in seconding, said that when a firm of good standing tendered and their price was the lowest their offer should be accepted. Mrs. Hale asked why the drugs and boots contracts were singled out for criticism. The Board decided by thirteen votes to six to accept the tender of The British Drug Houses, Ltd. Mrs. Stead gave notice that at the next meeting of the Board she would propose that in all future cases when the lowest tender was not recommended for acceptance the Contracts Committee should report to the Board the reasons on which their recommendations are based.

Swaffham Guardians.—Mr. F. W. Cooper, chemist, Swaffham, for disinfectants, etc.

Swansea Town Council.—S. Maw, Son & Sons, for a supply of surgical instruments. For annual supplies: United Alkali Co., Ltd., chloros and chloride of lime; Killgerm Co., Ltd., carbolic toilet-soaps, disinfecting-fluids, and sulphur candles; Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Co., Ltd., carbolic soap for washing clothing; Quibell Bros., soluble powder and disinfecting-fluids.

Swindon and District Hospital Board.—Mr. J. J. Shawyer, Swindon, appointed chemist for six months.

Wakefield Guardians.—Mr. W. Pollard, chemist, Wakefield, for drugs and medical appliances.

Warrington Guardians.—Corbyn, Stacey & Co., for drugs during the ensuing six months.

Weymouth Guardians.—Mr. R. Jeanes, chemist, Weymouth, for hospital dressings.

Weymouth Rural District Council.—The Council has decided, owing to the high cost of disinfectants as at present purchased, to procure tenders from local chemists, in order to get supplies at the lowest possible cost.

Whitehaven Guardians.—Mr. W. H. Wandless and Mr. Gass, chemists, Whitehaven, for certain drugs.

Yarmouth Guardians.—Mr. T. J. Woodcock, chemist, for drugs, trusses, etc.

MENTHOCAPSOL is the name given to a compound with a saponaceous base and medicated with ammonia, camphor, menthol, eugenol, gaultheria, and extract of capsicum and pepper. It is used externally in the treatment of rheumatism.

DR. HARVEY W. WILEY, chief of the bureau of chemistry in the U.S.A. Department of Agriculture, has (says an American paper) had some of his opinions regarding the Pure Food and Drugs Act reversed by the Department of Justice and the President. He was discussing the subject one day, when he said: "The matter of interpreting laws is much like the story of the little boy who was told by his teacher to read something from a primer. The boy read as follows: 'This is a warm doughnut. Step on it.' 'Why, Johnny,' said the teacher, 'that can't be right. Let me see your book.' This is what she found: 'This is a worm. Do not step on it.'"



Postal Address:

C. & D. INFORMATION DEPARTMENT, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "CHEMICUS LONDON."

Telephone No.: BANK 852 (two lines).

INFORMATION WANTED.

We would be obliged if any reader would inform us by post-card or telephone who are the makers or agents of the articles mentioned in the following inquiries:

- 121/180. "Imperial Cosaline."
- 124/71. "Salveno": suppliers.
- 124/712. "Emulsene": supply.
- 124/710. Sarter's rat-exterminator.
- 122/69. "Juvenis" water: supply.
- 117/54. Kutz tooth-powder: supply.
- 124/72. Primer's "Alnus Grandiflor."
- 117/53. "Extract Nutriens": makers.
- 123/52. Scott's bandages (for the knee).
- 122/4. "Trilby" limes: actual makers.
- 121/18. Dr. Simm's apiol and steel pills.
- 123/50. "Olina" soap: makers or importers.
- 121/70. Tab. astringens (Resor-Bisnol Co.): agents.
- 118/71. "Sambuci" (made by the "Sambuci" Manufacturing Co.).
- 122/34. "Königsplatz" eau de Cologne (Johann Maria Carl Farina): London agents.
- 123/1. Suppliers of a special wax, costing about 6*d.* per lb., suitable for furniture-paste, etc.: superior to ordinary ceresin and about the colour of beeswax.

INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

During the past week we have answered inquiries as to the makers or sellers of the following articles. The information will be repeated to other inquirers who send to this Department a stamped and addressed envelope for the purpose.

- Acid hydrocyanic, actual makers, 117/11
- Albumen importers, 121/47
- "Algago" powder, 117/54
- Allantoin, 119/4
- "American Beauty Rose" perfume, 120/61
- Ammonia phosphate (commercial), 118/110
- "Anti-Colic" feeder, 116/12
- Barium peroxide (commercial), 111/39
- Bed-pan (Reg. No. 228,412), 116/28
- Biocefin, 117/55
- Blume's (Dr.) aseptic finger bandages, 116/43
- Cactina pellets, 122/35
- Calmine tablets, 122/33
- Carbon tetrachloride (1-5 cwt lots), 116/70
- Cardboard eye-shades (Reg. No. 318,426), 105/10 and 120/20
- Clarke's Blood Mixture (German inquiry), 120/34
- Cockle's pills (Hamburg inquiry), 120/341
- Coloured tissue-paper, 123/54
- Cuttle-fish bone (powder), 117/20
- Dental outfits, 114/60
- Eau de Cologne, Atkinson (for South America), 120/344
- Egg-preserving containers, 123/530
- "Efectine" toilet preparations, 120/2
- Elastic gum vaginal-tubes, etc., 116/19
- Elliman's embrocation (Conimental inquiry), 120/340
- Filling machines, 123/53
- Formawn, 116/47
- Fuller's Earth (ton-lots), 111/60
- "Galvo" preparations, 117/55
- Gelatin, coloured (for lime-light), 204/33
- Glass ointment-jars, 118/25
- Gold leaf, 116/120
- Gruber's specialties, 120/110
- Guaiaacolina, 116/68
- Lactagol, 119/43
- Mellin's Food (Continental inquiry), 120/342
- Nastin (Kalle), 120/11
- Nickelled soap-boxes, 114/690
- Paraffin wax, 123/1
- "Peptonoid" preparations, 120/345
- Pistoia gout-powders, 117/15
- Plaster-spreading machinery, German (Turkish inquiry), 113/22
- Resor-Bisnol Co., address, 121/70
- Rogers' Atomisers, 120/14
- Saltpetre, 118/11
- Sapo Mollis Virid. B.P., 119/53
- Serravallo tonic, 116/46
- Soda acetato (ton-lots), 118/72
- Soxhlet's apparatus, 117/51
- Tanocol, 121/5
- Therapion, 119/69
- Triacol, 121/8
- "Trilby" limes, 117/69
- Tucker's Asthma Cure, 121/4
- Urodonal, 116/470
- Veterinary syringes in block tin (2-pint to 3-pint capacity), 116/12
- Vulcanite surgical instruments, 114/69
- Wildungen Salts, 116/471
- Wotherspoon's corn-flour (for Germany), 120/343
- "Zana" baths, 120/10

OBSERVATIONS & REFLECTIONS.

By Xrayser II.

The Fanciful "City Man"

sketched by Dr. McWalter in his amusing letter may be found in Dublin, but London "City men" have something else to think about; here the sketch might be perfectly true of a West-end dandy whose one aim in life is to pass the time. I am always ready to forgive Dr. McWalter for many of his extravagant notions because of the original setting which he gives to the products of his imagination, but he has surely spoiled the effect of his letter by concluding with a perfectly meaningless criticism of the Insurance Act. The calculation of Mr. Lloyd George and his actuaries is that the average working man loses eleven days in the year owing to sickness. It is on this average that Mr. George has based his payments to medical men. Obviously, if the health of the community is improved under the Act and working men have fewer than eleven days of illness, the doctor stands to gain; if, however, Dr. McWalter gets his way and the populace are to become

A Nation of Hypochondriacs,

the doctor will not get a penny more by way of fees, while he will be worked to death to gratify the insane cravings for drugs and operations that he has succeeded in inducing. The Act will benefit the nation and the doctors only if they can keep the working men well, and not by making them believe they are ill. If Dr. McWalter likes to foster hypochondria in his patients who earn 160*l.* a year, by all means let him do so, though he might, I think, occupy his time and devote his talents to some much more useful purpose. But the aim of the Insurance Act is very different from this. Even if a working man has time to become a hypochondriac, he can't afford it, for the loss of wages for the first three days of illness will be a forcible preventive of all this kind of thing.

Arsenical Fly-papers

are not, it seems, in Part I. of the Poisons Schedule, but their sale is evidently attended with imminent danger to the public, and I am not surprised to hear that some pharmacists still register the sale even of a single paper. I have myself always done so since the Maybrick case showed the terrible use to which they may be put, and I venture to advise my readers to do the same. It is clear that cases of arsenical poisoning may very easily pass undetected, and every possible means of preventing them ought therefore to be employed. It may be said that this is no part of our business, that all we can be expected to do is to obey the law; but with such an opinion I, for one, cannot agree. It is desirable on all grounds that we should act in the spirit as well as according to the letter of the Pharmacy Act; we lose nothing in this case by exceeding what is required of us, and we may gain a good deal by impressing upon the public the fact of our care in handling dangerous things. Personally, I hope the Seddon case will be made an occasion for putting these papers in Part I.; labels are easily removed, and, although they may be sufficient to prevent accident, they are no safeguard against wilful murder. The Act was, I suppose, intended to minimise as far as possible the danger of both.

"Corns, Warts, and Bunions"

(to adopt a heading from an old street-cry) are, it seems to me, too much neglected by the pharmacist. Why should we leave chiropody so largely

in the hands of the hairdresser? It is an exceedingly remunerative business, we are certainly as competent as he to undertake it, and, in contenting ourselves with putting up preparations which in three cases out of four the patient either misuses or neglects to use regularly, we are missing an opportunity of which a good deal might be made. "The resources of civilisation" in the war against corns are not exhausted by the application of a salicylic solvent, and, as a rule, even that simple operation is better done by an expert than by the sufferer himself. When actual extraction or cutting has to be resorted to, the need of an experienced hand is still greater, and if (as is the case) the fourpenny haircutter can get ninepence for this job, the pharmacist might reasonably demand a shilling—to say nothing of other business that would naturally follow. There should be no difficulty in getting a considerable amount both of

Cash and Kudos

from this "side-line." Wart-curing is more of an occult science, and, although I have practised it ever since, as a child, I cured warts of my own by means ofcelandine-juice, I dare not undertake to say what is the best treatment. Bacon cured his by an application of hog's lard, but this might in his case be entirely a matter of sympathy, and this treatment, like many others, I have known to prove effectual, if accompanied by a ritual which savours too much of superstition to be recognised by a modern pharmacist. Perhaps simple suggestion is as good a mode as any; there are well-attested cases in which it has succeeded, and, as anything one pleases may be prescribed along with it as a placebo, it pays very well. Seriously, my suggestion that chiropody should be added to our many industries is worth consideration.

The Earwig Case

reported by one of your correspondents last week is interesting, since it has been denied that these insects do creep into people's ears. I know no other authority for the assertion that they do, but popular belief is strong in the affirmative, and many old receipt-books and the name of the creature in most languages favour it. The German name is *ohr-wurm*, and it may possibly be of the earwig that Culpeper was thinking when he said that the juice of wild teasle kills worms in the ears "if there be any there to kill." Pliny's receipt for getting them out is simple, but nasty. "If (says Holland) an earwig be gotten into the eare, spit into the same, and it will come forth anon." A medical receipt-book of the fourteenth century has several prescriptions for worms and other "quike thynges that gon in-to a mann's ere." Here is one of them: "Take ius of sinchon [*i.e.*, groundsel] and munge [mix] hit with grece of elys and with ius of rewe and do hit in the ere, or take the ius of wilde tansi and put it in the ere." Another is for the juice of loveage, which will "make him com out, quyke or ded, certynly."

The Branded Bottle Question

assumes another phase when an attempt is made to prevent an oilman putting paraffin oil in a lemonade bottle. Mr. Duncan's claim that no one can use a bottle with an owner's name on it for any purpose he likes, apart from filling it with aerated water, is altogether untenable, notwithstanding the "interdict by consent" got at Edinburgh. The question appears to me to turn on whether the party who took the bottle to the oilman was or was not the owner. It is the custom in many places to sell the bottle with its contents, and when the empty bottle is returned its value is refunded. If I purchase a bottle of soda-water and pay for the bottle as well as the contents, the bottle is mine, no matter whose brand is on it, and I can take it to a chemist and get it filled with castor oil if I like; quite another situation would arise if I filled it with lemonade and attempted to sell it again, for then I would be liable for deceiving the public.

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Editorial Articles.

Secret-medicine Inquiry.

I.

THE long promised inquiry by the Government of the United Kingdom regarding the sale of secret remedies is now nearing fulfilment with the appointment of a Select Committee on the subject. It will consist of members of Parliament (see index folio 486). Whatever the reference to that Committee may be, it is not likely to ignore the Report as to the practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons in the United Kingdom prepared in 1910 by the Privy Council from information gathered by the Local Government Boards. In regard to proprietary medicines, the report stated:

The use of proprietary medicines by the public is extremely widespread throughout the whole country. Not only are they largely purchased by the poorer classes, and consumed in enormous quantities, but the well-to-do have recourse to them in a large measure.

It is stated that chemists recommend proprietary medicines very extensively, and the large quantities of these proprietary drugs that have been placed upon the market during recent years have materially aided them in acting as unqualified practitioners.

They are also sold by grocers and at the stores of co-operative societies, and one medical officer of health says that almost every little sweet-shop in his district sells headache-powders. The part that advertisements of these nostrums plays in deceiving the public as to their efficiency is adversely commented on. These advertisements, appearing not only in the daily Press, but in religious and other papers and magazines, are often supported by persons representing themselves to be qualified to give medical and surgical advice—a fact which naturally acts as a recommendation to the public and promotes their sale.

Some of them have a world-wide reputation; others have a local notoriety only—the latter being prepared by some local chemist or manufacturer. Others again obtain a ready sale through the agency of the itinerant street-corner or market quack, who claims for his nostrum healing properties of a very extensive nature.

One or two medical officers of health have alleged that the Revenue label affixed to proprietary medicines is responsible for the deception of many people as to the value of their contents. For instance, one officer states that many uneducated and under-educated persons believe (in spite of the statement that "This stamp implies no Government Guarantee") that they are issued with Government sanction and approval. He adds that the raising of revenue by these means is, from the medical standpoint, much to be deprecated.

The facility with which proprietary medicines can be obtained and indiscriminately used by the public is strongly condemned. Many of them contain powerful poisons, and preparations of such drugs as strychnia and digitalis are readily obtainable.

Connected with the use of proprietary medicines is the very common practice of obtaining through the post instructions as to courses of medical treatment, which are largely advertised.

Hygienic and health companies are alleged to do a large amount of this kind of work, without ever seeing the patients that are being treated. "They supply literature and cheap drugs at an extortionate cost, and cancer and consumptive patients are frequently defrauded of large sums of money." Courses of treatment are furnished in this way for almost every disease.

This statement may be taken as the basis of the inquiry; it is a convenient summary of the more important allega-

tions against secret remedies, and it was the cause of the demand for an inquiry. We propose in this and succeeding articles to deal with the laws and regulations of other countries than the United Kingdom which control the sale of proprietary medicines and secret remedies, and confine ourselves on the present occasion to some Continental countries. It should be noted at the outset that in all Continental countries, except France and Italy, the practice of pharmacy and the sale of medicines are virtually a monopoly in which the respective States are more or less interested, so that the tendency is to prohibit the sale of anything that the retail pharmacist cannot compound. This is well illustrated in Austria, where permission of the authorities must be obtained before any remedy put up ready for sale to the public is placed on the market, and if this permission is granted the authorities decide whether the article may be sold in the ordinary retail way, or only upon the prescription of a qualified medical man. In the latter case a fresh prescription must be produced on each occasion that the article is sold. Foreign firms wishing to place proprietary medicines on the Austrian market are required to appoint as their legal representative an Austrian firm, so that the latter may be directly responsible for any transgression that comes to light with regard to the sale or exploitation of the preparation. In France the law prohibiting the sale of secret remedies is a dead letter, for there is no people in the world who are so fond of such remedies as the French. It is also supposed that the Academy of Medicine exercises a measure of control by sanctioning the sale of foreign medicines only when the formula has been approved by the Academy. In practice the law is reduced to the common requirement that medicines may only be compounded and sold by qualified pharmacists. The law of Russia resembles the Austrian. When an application to place a proprietary medicinal preparation on the market is made, the authorities decide whether it may be retailed or sold only on prescription. Simultaneously with the publication of the permission either way the formula of the preparation is published in the "Official Gazette," so that any pharmacist is at liberty to sell a substitute made from the formula. The consequence is that the sale of specialities is very restricted in Russia. It is different in Italy, where the manufacturer of special medicinal preparations is protected to a certain extent from foreign competition at the expense of his secret. He is invited to send his products to the Board of Health, giving the formula, length of time that the preparation has been on the market, and the districts in which it is principally sold. If found satisfactory, the formula, with the name of the manufacturer, is included in the appendix of the national Pharmacopeia, which enjoys the distinction of being the only work of its kind that sets the seal of official approval on this class of products.

In the next article we propose to deal with the regulations prevailing in Germany.

Cod-liver Oil.

SINCE we wrote at length on the position of Norwegian cod-liver oil in our issue of March 9 (index folio 359) there has been a further decline of about 10s. per barrel, this making an aggregate decline since the beginning of the year of, say, 35s. to 38s. per barrel. This result is of course partly due to the fact that the fishing operations have been favoured by fine weather throughout, and the results, taken as a whole, may be considered satisfactory. We give the latest figures regarding the catch and output in our Trade Report, but may here state that the total yield of

steam-refined Norwegian oil for the whole of Norway now amounts to 34,860 hectolitres, against 17,336 hectolitres at the corresponding date of last year, or just double the amount. As is the rule towards Easter, when the fishing at Lofoten draws to a close, the livers are now becoming smaller and yielding less, and last week's fishing was poor; but in other districts the catch has been satisfactory, and the latest reports from Finnmarken, to which the fishermen will proceed shortly, indicate that the prospects there are good. On this Finnmarken fishing the future of the market depends, and if the quantity produced should be up to expectations, then prices may further decline. A peculiarity of the Norwegian market this year has been the readiness of Aalesund refiners to accept what are in some quarters called "panic" prices, whereas in Bergen there is less anxiety to accept the current low rates. Indeed, it is stated that at the present price of 65s. per barrel c.i.f. for prompt delivery, producers are selling at a loss, as finest new unrefined oil cannot be produced at a figure to permit of such sales. The probability is that those Norwegian speculators who accept, say, 65s., are selling for forward delivery, and are therefore speculating for the decline, in which they may be right.

A Norwegian correspondent draws our attention to the following figures, which he argues show very little reason for the slump in prices:

Up to March 2, 1912, the catch of cod and the yield of oil and livers at Lofoten was 4.6 million cod, 3,658 hect. of oil, and 489 livers respectively. Compare this with the year 1908 (March 7), when the corresponding figures were 4.2 million cod, 7,693 hect. of oil, and 1,100 livers. This shows that in 1912 it takes more than the double quantity of fish to make up one barrel of oil than it does in a year when the fish are in a good condition. A comparison between the figures for the whole of Norway gives practically the same result:

	1912 (March 2).	1908 (March 21).
Catch of cod ...	20.2 millions.	20.3 millions.
Cod-liver oil ...	17,554 hect.	31,486 hect.
Livers ...	3,575 "	6,696 "

Supposing the same proportion between catch of cod and yield of oil should be kept up during the remainder of the season, even a record catch of 50,000,000 cod will not give more than a little above 40,000 hect. of oil. But all experience shows a gradual decrease in the yield of oil as the season advances. The present has been a very early season, and it is anything but likely that the figures will show the same surplus as the season advances. In all probability the tables will show quite different figures ere long.

We understand that so far this season comparatively little business has been done in the new season's oil, buyers in quantity having held off, although, as usual, keenly watching the market with the object of getting in at the lowest point. Should the Finnmarken fishing turn out well the probability is that prices will eventually decline to, say, about 55s. or even 50s. per barrel. Our inquiries in the retail trade show that the comparatively high price of the oil during the last few seasons and the abnormally mild winter have done much to limit the retail sale. The public in recent years have also shown a much greater preference for emulsion than the oil, and we believe it may be stated without fear of contradiction that many chemists do not now approach the turnover in oil that distinguished former years.

National Health Insurance.

CONSIDERABLE interest has been taken in our suggestions regarding the working of the Insurance Act so far as the insurance of employes is concerned, and already several large firms have been looking into the question of whether they could usefully for themselves, and especially for their employes, institute approved societies for their employes. These firms have been met at the very start

with what appears to be a serious obstacle. In the instructions for the formation of approved societies, and in the model rules for their conduct, issued by the Insurance Commissioners, it appears that once an employé joins a society he remains a member even though he has ceased to be employed by the firm which runs the society. Firms who realise their full responsibilities in this matter will naturally guarantee the solvency of their own societies, and in this way secure to their employé's complete control of their own surplus funds, ensuring in the long run much greater advantages than would be offered by an outside friendly society. Hence a discharged employé will wish to retain membership in the society, but firms will hesitate to accept responsibility for men no longer in their employment who, in the event of total disablement, would become a permanent charge on the society's funds. This difficulty has been put before us, and we have in turn placed it before an authority on the Act, and his view is that it ought to be possible, in forming an approved society in connection with a firm, to frame a rule providing that any member leaving the employment of a firm must at once seek to connect himself with another society; if he does not do this, or if by the end of a year he is unable to prove that he cannot obtain admission to another society solely on the ground of ill-health, he thereupon ceases to be a member of the firm's society. Such a rule would be perfectly in keeping with the spirit of the Act, while it would protect employers from being responsible for men who may become permanently disabled, and may have to be maintained till they are seventy years of age, and whose disablement has been brought about in other employment for which the firm would be in no way chargeable. Such a rule would, it is believed, be passed by the Insurance Commissioners, though we understand that no similar case has been before them yet. We suggest that this is a good way out of what promises to be a difficulty. Our suggestion that Chemists' Associations should form themselves into approved societies has been considered by the Provisional Pharmaceutical Committee, but the Glasgow Pharmaceutical Association has the credit of being the first local body to take the matter up practically.

The Public Trustee.

We are informed that it is proposed from April 1 to reduce the fees paid by the public to the Public Trustee. During the past year nearly 2,000 persons lodged their testamentary depositions with this Department, and the value of the estates so administered was 8,000,000*l*.

What is an "Intoxicant"?

The Inebriates Bill is a consolidating and amending measure of fifty-three clauses and schedules. It contains a new definition of direct interest to the drug-trade—viz. :

The expression "intoxicant" includes any intoxicating liquor, and any sedative, narcotic, or stimulant drug or preparation.

It has been an offence under the Habitual Drugs Act, 1879, to give or supply to any person detained in a retreat "any intoxicating liquor, or sedative narcotic, or stimulant drug or preparation," but morphomaniacs and the like are not "habitual drunkards" within the meaning of the Act. The new definition of intoxicant will bring them within the term.

Chlorinated Lime.

We report a case in which conviction has been obtained under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts for the sale of chlorinated lime below the British Pharmacopœia strength. It was maintained, and the defence did not

deny, that chlorinated lime is a drug. It may be so when used for medicinal purposes, but disinfectants have not up to the present been regarded as coming within the purview of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, and as generally sold by chemists it is not for medicinal purposes. That, of course, is no excuse that it should be sold under the commonly recognised strength; but the object of this note is merely to put chemists on their guard, this case being the first of the kind, as far as we are aware. The article is generally asked for as "chloride of lime," or "bleaching-powder," so that if any customer asks for chlorinated lime, that being the Pharmacopœia name for it, care should be taken to ensure that it is of Pharmacopœia strength.

Scotland Leads, England Lags.

Scottish pharmacists have not taken long to act for themselves through the National Insurance Committee. On Wednesday of last week the Provisional Committee met in London, and decided that committees for England, Scotland, and Wales should be formed. Two days later Scottish chemists met in Edinburgh and appointed a committee of seventeen. Moreover, it was agreed to draft a tariff of dispensing-charges for Scotland and to collect money in Scotland to meet the expenses of the Scottish Committee. Do we in the South realise what all this means? Simply, that Scotland is leading. At the first meeting of the Provisional Committee the only members who were prepared with formulated ideas and plans were the deputies from Scotland; they led, and the rest, by acquiescing, followed. The process is going on, but with a difference—Scotland is in a position to act for itself, and is doing so, energetically, independently, promptly. In the first week in May a meeting of pharmacists will be held "for the purpose of setting up the English National Pharmaceutical Insurance Committee"!

Prison Dispensers.

The position of compounders employed in prisons has been improved as the result of a petition to the Home Office. The Prison Commission have signified that in future the title of compounder will be altered to that of pharmacist, the hours of duty will not exceed forty-five in a week, the allowance in lieu of quarters, which was 15*l*. 12*s*., will be raised to 19*l*. 10*s*., and will count for pension subject to the limit of one-sixth of the total salary and emoluments, and the personal and travelling allowance will be increased from 6*s*. 6*d*. to 8*s*. a day. In the petition, reasons were given for the change in title. Other reforms desired in the petition—increase in annual leave to twenty-eight days after fifteen years' service, and increase in the weight of furniture allowed on transfer—were not granted. The result is certainly encouraging, and should interest other dispensing chemists in Government employ in the efforts that are being made to secure recognition of their qualification. It is also good for pharmacy as a whole that the authorities are being reminded that dispensers are entitled to be treated as educated men.

The Metric System in South Africa.

We have, during the last eighteen months, noted from time to time the progress of the South African Weights and Measures Bill, which was born shortly after the birth of the Union Parliament. It is interesting that in the same week as we received a copy of the Bill as published in the "Union Gazette Extraordinary" for February 15 we learn from the Secretary of the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce that the Bill is shelved. The Bill itself is in four chapters with three schedules, and would occupy about

three of our pages. The part which interests chemists most is in Chapter 11, Clause 12, Sub-clause 3, as follows :

From the date fixed by the Governor-General by proclamation in the Gazette no person shall sell drugs and medicines retail by weight or measure except by measures of the metric system.

Clause 14 provides that all goods must be sold by net weight, and that packages should not be exposed for sale unless the net weight was legibly marked thereon. Clause 16 prohibits the use of false, defective, or unjust measuring instruments, including measures other than those standard throughout the Union. The presence of an instrument on any premises was to be deemed for use until the contrary be proved. The resentment of chemists against the Bill was due to their being singled out from other traders as an experiment for the introduction of the metric system into South Africa. They are to be congratulated on having escaped this heavy imposition, and our short survey of the Bill shows that they have escaped another regulation which would have caused endless trouble—viz., the marking of the net weight on every package sold. The fact that the chemist would not have been able to keep a set of apothecaries' weights for his own use is another cause for satisfaction that the Bill will not become law.

False Cubeb Oil.

MESSRS. J. C. UMNEY AND H. V. POTTER in the "Perfumery Record" for March give the results of their examination of the essential oil yielded by the false cubeb-fruits described in our last issue, index folio 443. The characters of this oil which was obtained from fruits designated Nos. 4 and 5 are compared below with the oil from genuine fruits :

	(Nos. 4 and 5) Oil from False Fruits	(No. 3) Oil from Genuine Fruits
Odour ...	Decidedly macey	Normal
Sp. gr. ...	0.894	0.917
Opt. rot. ...	+16°	-43°
Esters ...	Free	—
Alcohols ...	Saponification No. after acetylation 56.1	—

Fractionation (percentages).

Nos. 4 and 5.			No. 3.		
Below 160°	...	12	Below 200°	...	5
160°-170°	...	8	200°-230°	...	11
170°-180°	...	20	230°-240°	...	3
180°-190°	...	6	240°-250°	...	15
190°-200°	...	4	250°-255°	...	31
200°-230°	...	8	255°-257°	...	25
230°-240°	...	2			
240°-250°	...	4			
250°-260°	...	6			
260°-270°	...	10			

The above constants show that the oil possesses an entirely different composition from that of normal cubeb oil. The authors conclude from their observations that certain abnormal cubeb oils which have been met with in commerce are the product of mixtures of genuine berries with either this hitherto undescribed spurious cubeb, or possibly another variety. A mixture of one part of normal cubeb with one part of the new variety would yield an oil having approximately characters of these abnormal oils—namely, a rotation of -16° and a specific gravity of 0.910. In considering the product distilled from mixed fruits, it must not be forgotten that the genuine fruit yields twice as much essential oil as the spurious cubeb.

The April number of "The Prescriber" is devoted chiefly to the subject of diabetes and its treatment. There is an article on the disease by Dr. J. D. Comrie, and another by Mr. Thos. Stephenson, Ph.C., on "Jambul, an Indian Remedy for Diabetes."

National Health Insurance.

LOCAL PHARMACEUTICAL ARRANGEMENTS.

WE are indebted to Mr. T. Maltby Clague, Ph.C., Newcastle-on-Tyne, for a copy of the scheme prepared by him for friendly working of the interests of pharmacists under the Medical Benefit Section (as regards the dispensing of medicines and the supply of drugs and medical and surgical requisites), in the area covered by Newcastle-upon-Tyne and District Pharmacists' Association, which has adopted the scheme. In drafting Mr. Clague recognised that the only part that the Association can play is that of an advisory body, and that it is only applicable where local pharmacists are desirous of utilising the services of the Association, subject to the National Committees which are proposed to be set up. We reprint the scheme in the belief that other local Associations will find it a basis useful to work upon :

Newcastle City and County, Gateshead County Borough, Tynemouth County Borough, South Shields County Borough.

That the registered persons and the companies legally entitled under the 1908 Act should be called together, and, in the event of their deciding to avail themselves of the services of this Association, they should form a committee, to consist of :

1. A certain number of themselves.
2. The members of the Parliamentary Committee or Organisation Committee carrying on business in the county borough concerned.
3. The Chairman and two members of the Parliamentary or Organisation Committee.

The committee so set up should be empowered to enter into any bargaining as to scale of prices with the local Insurance Committee, and to assist in the formation of a panel or panels for the supply of medicines.

In the case of the drugs, dressings, etc., which unqualified persons or firms (unqualified under the Pharmacy Acts that is) are entitled to supply, to co-operate with such persons or firms, whether united as committees or separately as traders.

Northumberland County Council.

To consult with, advise, and, if called up by them, to act with and for the persons, bodies, and firms within the county area in a manner similar to the county boroughs as in foregoing.

To consult with the County Council or its committee with and on behalf of the pharmacists as to the advisability of setting up separate area local Insurance Committees.

Bearing in mind also that it may be found necessary to include in the county panel those in business in the county boroughs for the insured persons whose residences are contiguous to the said county boroughs, it is specially desirable that the Parliamentary or Organisation Committee can claim participation in all negotiations.

Berwick-upon-Tweed, Wallsend, Ashington, Bedlingtonshire, Blyth.

In the event of these being set up as separate local Insurance Committees to act with and for those areas in like manner as for county boroughs.

Durham County.

To act with and for the persons, firms, etc., in the area, but in co-operation with the Chemists' Association of Sunderland, Hartlepoons, Stockton, etc.

All this otherwise in a manner similar to the county of Northumberland.

Jarrow, Blaydon, Felling, Hebburn, Stanley.

In the event of separate local Insurance Committees being set up to act with and for the local firms and persons in like manner to the similar areas in Northumberland County and the county boroughs.

Generally.—To advise all meetings of pharmacists in local areas to make their selection of members of committees comprehensive of all the classes entitled to do that which is being done.

THE ACT IN SCOTLAND.

A general representative meeting of persons, firms, and bodies corporate carrying on the business of chemists and druggists in Scotland, to consider matters bearing upon the appointment of National Insurance Pharmaceutical Committees and an International Insurance Pharmaceutical Committee, was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on Friday, March 22. On the motion of Mr. Jack,

Mr. J. P. Gilmour, Chairman of the Executive of the North British Branch, was called to the chair. After apologies for absence had been intimated, the Chairman reported on behalf of

THE SCOTTISH DEPUTIES

what they had done in London. His statement was on lines similar to those of his report to the Executive (see p. 481). He pointed out that while the Pharmaceutical Society does not desire to exercise any control over the Pharmaceutical Insurance Committee, the officers had done everything possible in the most courteous manner to assist the committee. Mr. T. Stephenson (one of the deputies) concurred. Mr. Ferrier (Dumdee) moved, and Mr. J. H. Thomson (Lochee) seconded, that the report be adopted, which was done. On the motion of Mr. C. F. Henry, Edinburgh, seconded by Mr. James Lennox, Glasgow, the deputies were thanked.

THE SCOTTISH INSURANCE COMMITTEE.

After a long conference it became apparent that the general feeling was in favour of appointing in the meantime a representative committee of seventeen, including the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Executive of the North British Branch and three representatives of bodies corporate carrying on business as chemists and druggists in Scotland, with power to co-opt three additional members and to appoint corresponding members.

The following committee was thereupon unanimously elected:

F. W. M. Bennett, Arbroath.	James Bell (St. Cuthbert's
R. G. Drummond, Falkirk.	Co-operative Association,
David Gilmour, Dunfermline.	Ltd., Edinburgh).
Thomas Guthrie, Clydebank.	C. T. Cockburn (Cockburn
C. F. Henry, Edinburgh.	& Co., Ltd., Glasgow).
Samuel Lawrence, Oban.	W. Cox (Boots Cash
James Lennox, Glasgow.	Chemists, Ltd., Glasgow).
William Lyon, Leith.	J. P. Gilmour, Glasgow
W. G. McNab, Gorebridge.	(Chairman of the N.B.B.
Charles Simpson, Aberdeen.	Executive).
David Storrar, Kirkcaldy.	William Giles, Aberdeen
J. H. Thomson, Lochee.	(Vice-Chairman of the
	N.B.B. Executive).

On the motion of Mr. Stephenson, seconded by Mr. Marshall, it was agreed to remit to the National Committee just elected the question of its relationship to the International Consultative or Advisory Committee. It was agreed that a fund amounting to about 50% should be raised in the meantime to meet current expenses. It was left in the hands of the committee to carry out this arrangement. It was also remitted to the committee to take steps for the setting up of panels for pharmacy service in Scotland, and also to deal with the question of a scale of prices for drugs and medicines supplied to insured persons. The committee was also instructed to consider some more permanent scheme for the election of a representative National Insurance Pharmaceutical Committee. Various special points for consideration were suggested, such as night-calls or service after shop-hours, an approved society for chemists' assistants, etc., and these and all other matters relating to the National Insurance Act were remitted to the committee to be dealt with. A vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman on the motion of Mr. W. L. Currie.

OFFICIAL EXPLANATORY LEAFLETS.

Any person can obtain, on application to the National Health Insurance Commission, Buckingham Gate, London, S.W., any of the following octavo leaflets:

No. 1. "Questions and Answers for Society Officials" (eight pages).

No. 2. "Questions and Answers for Members of Friendly Societies" (six pages).

No. 3. "Questions and Answers for Members of Dividing Societies and Slate Clubs" (four pages).

No. 4. "Who Will be Insured?" (four pages). Tells about (1) those who are not obliged to be insured; (2) persons who may be excluded from the Act by special order; and (3) persons who will be insured under the Act, but for whom special provisions are made in the Act.

No. 5. "Advantages of Joining an Approved Society."

No. 6. "Contributions and Benefits. Working Men."

(1) Ordinary rate. Employer pays 3d. a week, workman pays 4d. a week. The State contributes 2d. towards every 9d. which is expended on benefits and the administration of benefits.

(2) A table showing modifications of the payment.

(3) Special rate when the employer undertakes to pay full remuneration during the first six weeks of sickness—namely, 2d. a week.

APPROVED SOCIETIES FOR CHEMISTS.

Mr. James Lennox, President of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Pharmaceutical Association, has been taking a keen interest in this subject, and along with Mr. T. Guthrie (Vice-President), Mr. J. H. Hart (Secretary), and Mr. A. McMillan (Treasurer) recently interviewed Mr. Buyers Black, the local lecturer under the Act, as a result of which a meeting of chemists' assistants has been arranged for Tuesday, April 2, at the Regent Tea Rooms. Tea will be served from 8.45 to 9.15 p.m. (charge 9d.), and Mr. Buyers Black will explain the advantages of forming an approved society for chemists' assistants. Mr. Lennox informs us that other local Associations who desire to take advantage of the provisions for small approved societies should take immediate action, as the canvassers of the friendly societies are only awaiting the sanction of the Commissioners to scoop in men upon whose head there is a price—viz., men who join at, say, thirty-five, who are credited to the Society by the Treasury at the actuarial valuation, which means the difference between age sixteen and age thirty-five. This is, of course, a condition that only applies for the first few months, but it is worth obtaining, as it means being able right away to give increased benefits. The lead which the Glasgow Association is giving is important, especially for Scotland. Other Associations who want to know how it is to be done might communicate with Mr. Lennox, 6 Queen Margaret Place, N. Kelvinside, Glasgow.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

THERE was a fair attendance at the meeting held at Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W., on March 21. The chair was taken by the President, Professor P. F. Frankland, F.R.S. The seven communications contained little of pharmaceutical interest. Dr. T. M. Lowry in his first paper showed that the proportion of nitrogen peroxide produced from a rapid current of air passed through three electric spark-gaps and an ozoniser is almost identical (being slightly greater) with the amount found when the gas is ozonised before being subjected to the electric discharge. The amount produced when air subjected to the electric discharge and air ozonised separately are mixed is but little less than in the previous two methods. Another experiment was mentioned, from which it was evident that the ozoniser is as effective as thirteen additional spark-gaps. The author theorised that the sparking of air produced a form of nitrogen, comparable to Strutt's active nitrogen (not affected by ozone), which is oxidisable by ozone. Dr. Lowry's second communication consisted of a method for the production of thallium light. A silica bulb, containing thallium chloride between plugs of asbestos placed at each end, is continued into a jet and the other end connected with a cylinder of oxygen through a glass jar which acts as gas-chest. On passing a current of oxygen and heating the bulb and the jet with two bunsen burners a steady pencil of homogeneous green light was shown. Dr. Lowry said that the optically homogeneous character of the light was proved by the satisfactory readings which could be obtained for rotations of 5,000° and over. He mentioned that a colleague had read off a rotation of 84,782° with the light. The President gave a demonstration with a model designed by Mr. Garner of an asymmetric carbon atom in which transposition of atoms to represent the two enantiomorphous forms can be effected without changing any of the balls representing the various radicles. The last paper, by Professor G. T. Morgan and Miss F. G. M. Micklethwaite, related to organic compounds of arsenic and antimony.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.

NORTH BRITISH BRANCH.

Executive Meeting.

A MEETING of the Executive was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on Friday, March 22. Mr. J. P. Gilmour presided. Messrs. W. B. Cowie, W. L. Currie, W. Doig, J. H. Fisher, J. A. Forret, W. Giles, D. Gilmour, J. Jack, J. Lennox, A. McMillan, M. Meldrum, James Nesbit, G. Somerville, and J. W. Sutherland were also present.

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT.

The CHAIRMAN reported on behalf of the Scottish deputies appointed at last meeting to attend the meetings of the General Provisional Pharmaceutical Committee on Insurance. He said he would speak from the point of view of the resolution then adopted and the instruction then given to the Scottish deputies. At the meeting on February 21 all the Scottish deputies attended and there was a full meeting of the committee. At this meeting Mr. Tocher submitted the fundamental proposals unanimously recommended by the Scottish Local Pharmaceutical Associations—namely:

(1) That the respective National Pharmaceutical Committees shall be independent, and deal directly with their respective National Insurance Commissioners.

(2) That the International Pharmaceutical Committee shall have no executive powers, but be purely advisory and consultative.

These were unanimously accepted. Other points raised were remitted to a sub-committee on which he was the only Scottish pharmacist. It was further unanimously agreed that to enable these preliminary matters of detail to be adjusted the Provisional Committee should be continued on a temporary basis for three months. The sub-committee had met twice. At the first meeting he submitted the following motions, which had been agreed upon by the Scottish deputies:

"(1) That there shall be instituted in England, Scotland, and Wales, independent National Insurance Pharmaceutical Committees, to consist of three classes of representatives elected by vote, respectively by (a) the members of the Pharmaceutical Society, (b) the persons or firms on local panels, and (c) the bodies corporate on local panels in each of the three countries.

"(2) That there shall be instituted, with purely consultative or advisory functions, an International Insurance Pharmaceutical Committee, comprising representatives from the three National Insurance Pharmaceutical Committees.

"(3) That the expenses of the National and International Committees be provided for by a capitation levy on persons, firms, and bodies corporate composing the local panels, each National Committee being responsible for its own expenses and one-third of the expenses of the International Committee."

On Wednesday, March 20, the sub-committee met immediately prior to the large committee, when he adhered to the views so unanimously entertained by Scottish pharmacists, but had not been successful in persuading his colleagues to accept the plan which Scottish pharmacists so strongly favoured, although the principle of independence of the National Committee and the purely consultative character of the International Committee remained as adopted at the meeting on February 21. Mr. Gilmour then related the result of the discussion in the committee on the recommendations as to committees (see *C. & D.*, March 23, index folio 445), explaining that his object in opposing the "action in harmony" recommendation was that it was quite impracticable to undertake to act in harmony, as the National Committees would frequently require to decide points and take action without any possibility of consulting with any International Committee. It seemed, also, as if it might possibly imply that the National Committees were binding themselves to carry out the decrees of the International Committee, and that would not be consistent with the freedom of action of the National Committees. There was also, he added, some discussion in the committee on the question of a tariff and on the question of what might happen if medical benefit under the Act should be suspended. There

was also a reference to the idea of setting up a Pharmaceutical Friendly Society. The question of finance was also an important one. The Pharmaceutical Society had incurred a very considerable expense in convening the first meeting of the committee, but the subsequent expenditure must be met in some other way, and an appeal had been issued to those interested and it was hoped that in that way the necessary funds would be obtained. The deputies had pleasure in acknowledging the kindness and courtesy shown to them by the President and Council of the Society and by the members of the staff. The position might be summarised thus: Firstly, the committees under the National Insurance Act are absolutely free to set up their own National Insurance Pharmaceutical Committee. The only question that remained was their relationship to the International Insurance Pharmaceutical Committee. As to what further action might be taken, the feeling of the Scottish deputies was that they had fulfilled their commission and now demitted office, and that it would require to be left to the proposed Scottish National Committee to consider what arrangements should be made for relating themselves to the International Pharmaceutical Committee.

The VICE-PRESIDENT (Mr. Currie) said he had unfortunately been unable to attend the last meeting of the Provisional Insurance Committee, but he had stated his views in a letter to Mr. Woolcock, in which he entirely supported the attitude taken up by the Scottish deputies. He objected to the continuance of the Provisional Insurance Committee, first of all on the ground of expense, and secondly, because so large a body for purely advisory purposes was not called for. The real work would be done by the National Committees, and it would only be occasionally that matters would require to be dealt with by the International Committee, and the latter body should be composed of elected representatives from each of the National Committees. He had a reply from Mr. Woolcock stating that the feeling of Scottish pharmacists had been very ably and forcibly voiced by Mr. Gilmour and Mr. Stephenson, but that, nevertheless, the recommendations of the Executive Committee had been agreed to.

Mr. JACK said he thought the Executive should accept the report and, in discharging the deputies from their commission, they should give their cordial thanks to them for the manner in which they had carried out the very responsible duty imposed upon them. He thought they had succeeded in gaining all the points except one—namely, that the International Committee should be small in numbers and elected from the National Committees, and that point might, in course of time, be also secured.

Mr. DOIG seconded the vote of thanks, which was cordially awarded.

Reference was made to the mass-meeting of chemists to be held that afternoon (see index folio 479).

PRESCRIBING AND DISPENSING.

It was reported that the question of what might happen if the medical benefit under the Act was suspended had been considered, and as a result the National Insurance Commissioners for Scotland had been informed that, in this event, there is no reason why the Pharmacy Service provisions of section 15 should not be followed in making arrangements for the supply of medicines for insured persons. The Scottish local associations and divisional secretaries had also been communicated with in regard to the question of a separation between prescribing and dispensing, so as to ensure that in any subsequent amendments of the Act the principle should not be subverted.

LOCAL ORGANISATION.

It was reported that, following a suggestion made at last Executive meeting, Mr. James Meanie (Golspie) had been appointed by the Council as Divisional Secretary for Sutherlandshire, thus completing for the first time the scheme of Divisional Secretaries for Scotland instituted in 1893. At a recent meeting of pharmacists in Ayr steps had been taken for setting up a Pharmaceutical Association for South Ayrshire, and it is expected that one for North Ayrshire will also be formed. The Assistant Secretary reported upon an effort being made to link up

associations in the Glasgow area. Mr. Henry Hannah, Divisional Secretary for Paisley, asked to be relieved of that position, as he is in poor health. The Executive passed a motion of regret and sympathy.

SHOPS ACT AND CHEMISTS.

In consequence of numerous inquiries, a note explanatory of the provisions of the Act in their application to chemists' shops had been sent to local associations and divisional secretaries in Scotland, and other information had been supplied. The note recommends that in applying for a closing order extending the compulsory half-holiday to chemists' shops it is advisable to ask simply for a closing order without qualifying conditions.

Mr. NESBIT explained that in the Portobello agreement they had an earlier closing hour on the other days of the week as well as the half-holiday.

It was agreed to leave the draft annual report in the hands of the Chairman and to circulate the draft to members of Executive for any suggestions before its final adjustment and transmission to the Council.

It was decided not to hold the day meeting and conference arranged for April 19.

THE fourth meeting of the Session was held at 56 York Place, Edinburgh, on March 20, Mr. William Giles, J.P., in the chair.

THE CHAIRMAN called upon Mr. James Crombie, Ph.C., to read a paper on

THE ART OF FLAVOURING.

In this Mr. CROMBIE discussed the physiological aspect of taste and smell as two distinct senses, although most physiologists give flavour as simply smell, and described it entirely apart from taste. Tastes may be classified into (1) sweet; (2) bitter; (3) acid, or sour; (4) salt. It has not been decided whether alkaline and metallic tastes are elementary. When diluted sweet and salt solutions are simultaneously applied to the tongue, they tend to neutralise one another, but a true and definite point is difficult to reach. The delicacy of the sense of taste was shown by the power to detect one part of sulphuric acid in 1,000 of water. Quinine, common salt, and sugar are less easily detected, but in the order given. Chewing the leaves of an Indian plant, *Gymnema Sylvestre*, destroys the sensibility of bitter and sweet, but leaves the power to discern acids and saline bodies. Dealing with the theories of smell, the author favoured the vibratory theory of Ramsay, which can be applied without exception to all sensations. An analogy was then drawn between sound and flavour, and a point urged of special importance to pharmacists that if a preparation has a pleasing appearance the person taking it might be predisposed towards it, and would naturally seek for a pleasant flavour, and, if present, would appreciate it to a greater extent than he would if the preparation looked dull and uninviting.

Mr. BOA agreed with the suggestion in the main that the art of flavouring should be based upon some definite principles. Speaking of flavouring substances used in perfumes, he said, suppose they took, for example, oil of eucalyptus, and put a spot or two on blotting-paper, and gave it a shake and smelt it, and kept shaking it until they had exhausted the smell, they had gone through quite a number of different odours—that is to say, in that oil odours go off at certain stages, and the complete odour of the oil is made up of a considerable number of components. Anyone who wants to prepare perfumes in anything like a scientific way has got to study the subject with that in mind, because if one mixes together two odorous substances which had nothing in common, the mixture will not be, by any means, agreeable as a perfume. The principal consideration in dealing with substances of that sort is that the odorous constituents have different rates of diffusion through the air. In building up perfumes, if we want to back up one essential with another, we have to choose a substance which travels approximately at the same rate, or we should not get one thing assisting the other at all. When preparing a compound flavouring, we have to bear in mind the same principles.

Mr. C. F. HENRY hoped Mr. Crombie would follow up the subject. It would be a useful addition to their know-

ledge of flavouring medicinal substances. He thought the B.P. Codex failed in flavouring many of its preparations. For example, the glycerophosphates are, to a great extent, spoiled by the harshness of the taste, and do not compare favourably with proprietary articles of the same nature in that respect.

Mr. MERSON said, those of them who had experience of making palatable preparations, either beverages or medicinal substances, contrived by rule of thumb to get a fair flavour. Naturally, the sense of taste rejects the unfit and approves the suitable.

Mr. SOMERVILLE had often heard it said that a mixture containing, say, quinine, flavoured with syrup of orange, is a fraud. A nice odour is got when it is put to the lips, and something nice is expected to follow, but there is a disappointment when the quinine taste comes afterwards. It was often said by those who take Gregory's powder that if it is mixed and handed to them by another person it is more easily taken, because they have not time to perceive the nauseous odour which is so evident when they mix it themselves.

Mr. MCPHERSON expected that Mr. Crombie would have gone on and given them a scale such as Mr. Piesse devised.

Mr. ROWLAND said that probably why we have not had a development of some scale of odours is due to the fact that so very many of the natural products we handle are of themselves a scale. A development on the lines suggested might be found in the coal-tar products. We have at the present time a good deal of fractionation in the ordinary essential oils. By collecting these fractions we might be able to hit upon a scale.

Mr. RUTHERFORD HILL thought the title of Mr. Crombie's paper would have been more accurate if he had called it not "The Art of Flavouring," but "The Science on which the Art of Flavouring is Based."

Mr. TAIT pointed out that Mr. Crombie's difficulty would be not the producing of a scale, but the quality of a scale.

In reply, Mr. CROMBIE said it is a difficult matter to draw up a scale, but it could be done. He then spoke in detail upon the points raised in the discussion.

In the absence of Mr. D. B. Dott, the following papers by him were read by Mr. RUTHERFORD HILL:

SOLUBILITY OF ETHYLMORPHINE HYDROCHLORIDE.

The solubility of this salt in water at ordinary temperature is variously stated. The German Pharmacopoeia gives 1 in 12; the Swiss, 1 in 7.14; Hungarian, 1 in 7; Swedish, 1 in 9; Squire's Companion, 1 in 7; B.P. Codex, 1 in 7; Martindale, about 1 in 10. Mr. Dott has found the solubility of samples of the salt prepared in different ways to be nearly 1 in 10. Of the two general methods for determining solubility it is better for practical purposes to add the water gradually from a burette to a weighed quantity of the salt, until the last trace just disappears on agitating. The method by macerating with excess of the salt, weighing a portion of the solution, and evaporating to complete dryness appears more exact; yet it is liable to appreciable error in the case of certain alkaloidal salts and probably other organic compounds. The anhydrous and amorphous states might increase the solubility, so that the solution remains for some time in a state of what might be called partial "supersaturation." It is evident that a salt which is not perfectly homogeneous in that respect might indicate a higher degree of solubility when tested by the maceration method, as compared with the method by adding the solvent gradually till complete solution is obtained. The latter is obviously the proper method to adopt, from the dispenser's point of view. However, one of the samples was tested by the maceration method. Of the saturated solution 6.953 grams left 0.620 gram of dry salt, equal to 0.632 gram of fully hydrated salt. This indicates a solubility of 1 in 10. Martindale's "about 1 in 10" is quite correct. Mr. Dott preferred to state it as 1 in 10-11. As regards the solubility of organic compounds, the discrepant statements are no doubt mainly due to faulty determinations. He did not think it has been sufficiently noticed that the physical state, and probably the condition of hydration, may considerably affect the result. For instance, if a compound has been dried at such a temperature as partially to fuse, the solubility would be generally

greater. It may naturally be assumed that when a substance capable of forming different hydrates with water is introduced into excess of water, it should at once form its highest hydrate, and indicate the same solubility as if that particular hydrate had been added to the water; but that is by no means the case. As the physicists would say, the system does not at once attain its condition of minimum potential energy, but only after the lapse of time. As is pretty well known, small amounts of certain impurities greatly retard that condition, so that a solution might remain "supersaturated" for weeks. Squire refers to a previous note by him (Mr. Dott) in which he gave 1 in 14 as the solubility of ethylmorphine hydrochloride. His recollection was that, in that case, it was given in connection with a dispensing question, and no doubt was stated on the safe side.

NOTE ON ATROPINE SULPHATE

Atropine sulphate is represented in the British Pharmacopœia, as also in other books to which he had referred, by the formula $(C_{17}H_{23}NO_3)_2H_2SO_4$ —i.e., as an anhydrous salt. A salt might be capable of forming a hydrate and yet be anhydrous in the condition in which it is usually prepared and sold. In the latter case the Pharmacopœia would be justified in omitting the H_2O from the formula. Absence of water from a potentially hydrated salt might occur from the drying of a readily efflorescent salt, or because of the menstruum from which the salt has been crystallised containing no water, or an insufficiency of water. The case of atropine sulphate is complicated by the fact that the compound is liable to contain a proportion of hyoscyamine sulphate, which admittedly has the formula $B_2H_2SO_4 \cdot 2H_2O$. Some base which had been prepared from belladonna-root, having been twice precipitated by ammonia, was converted into sulphate and crystallised, the air-dry crystals being moistened with water and allowed to dry slowly at ordinary temperature. The loss of weight in water-bath was 4.29 per cent. $(C_{17}H_{23}NO_3)_2 \cdot 2H_2O$ required 4.92 per cent. Some of the ordinary commercial sulphate when dried in water-bath lost 0.88 per cent. When moistened with water and allowed to dry thoroughly in the air the loss of weight in water-bath was 1.98 per cent. These results are quite consistent with the view that atropine sulphate crystallises without water of crystallisation, and the hyoscyamine salt with 2 molecules. But they show at the same time that the hyoscyamine is by no means so readily converted into atropine as is sometimes stated; and that the commercial sulphate of atropine does not contain an appreciable amount of water—corresponding to fully $\frac{1}{2}H_2O$ —and readily takes up water corresponding to $\frac{1}{2}H_2O$. It is admittedly difficult to prepare the salt without a moderate proportion of hyoscyamine sulphate, so that probably a percentage loss in water-bath of 1 to 1.3 should be permitted.

THE SULPHATES OF STRYCHNINE.

The neutral sulphate is generally represented by the formula $B_2H_2SO_4 \cdot 5H_2O$, but in one or two books it is stated to contain 6 molecules of water. It certainly contains more than the $5H_2O$, but the author had not in any case found a percentage agreeing with $6H_2O$. The loss on drying agrees best with 11.44 per cent., which is the number required for $5\frac{1}{2}H_2O$. The preferable formula is $(C_{21}H_{22}N_2O_4)_2 \cdot H_2SO_4 \cdot 5\frac{1}{2}H_2O$. The acid sulphate loses all its water of hydration in the water-bath, the numbers approximating very closely to 7.69 per cent., which is the figure required for $BH_2SO_4 \cdot H_2O$.

Dr. WATT said a glance at the literature of ethylmorphine hydrochloride showed the great divergencies of opinion as to the question of the solubility, and it is remarkable there should be such a difference of opinion on a subject which apparently is so simple. He agreed with Mr. Dott in the method he recommended for the solubility. Strychnine sulphate is diamorphic, one form is in prisms, and the other pyramidal.

Mr. MERSON and Mr. RUTHERFORD HILL also joined in the discussion.

Thanks were accorded to the authors of the papers.

Attention was directed to a specimen of allantoin prepared from the comfrey-root sent by T. & H. Smith, Ltd.

WINTER SESSION.

Association Presidents.

MR. STANLEY HAZELL CLEGG, the new President of the Oxford and District Chemists' Association, is a son of Mr. A. D. Clegg, Wantage, and after his education at King Alfred's Grammar School there, he was apprenticed to his father, whose business includes that of a stationer and printer, while he was postmaster for nearly forty years. The business is now carried on as Clegg & Son, Mr. A. J. Clegg having succeeded his father. After completing his apprenticeship, Mr. Stanley Clegg went to the late Mr. Charles Bradley, of Reading, for about two years; then to Messrs. Fowke & Son, Stafford. He came to London to prepare for the Minor examination at Muter's (where he was Silver medalist), and passed in July 1905. This was followed by about three years with Messrs. Moore & Co., Craven Road, Lancaster Gate, W., and finally with Messrs. W. H. Fowler & Co., chemists, of Redhill, where he took up the optical side of the business, receiving every assistance in this direction from Mr. Fowler, an experienced refractionist. After a few months' grind, with periodical visits to a coach in London, Mr. Clegg passed the examinations of the Spectacle-makers' Company. In January of last year Mr. Clegg acquired the business at 71 High Street, Oxford, previously carried on by Mr. J. W. Todd, consisting of good-class dispensing with photographic and optical departments. Attached is a fully equipped mineral-water factory.



MR. S. H. CLEGG.

Brief Records.

Leeds Chemists' Association.—At the meeting held on Wednesday evening, March 27, Mr. Mundell gave a lantern-lecture on "Lovely Lucerne," which was much enjoyed. Mr. Golightly, of Pudsey, was elected a member.

The Pharmacists of Hornsey held a meeting on Thursday, March 28, at 22 Broadway Parade, Crouch End, to consider those provisions of the *Shops Act* which affect chemists and to decide what action shall be taken; also to form a Hornsey Pharmacists' Association.

Glasgow and West of Scotland Chemists' Association.—A meeting was held at the Royal Technical College, when a lantern-lecture was given by Dr. Inglis Clark on "Tyrol in Summer and Winter." A vote of thanks was given to Dr. Clark for his lecture, which was much enjoyed.

The Nottingham Branch of the Pharmacy and Drugstores Association held their adjourned annual meeting on Tuesday, March 26, and decided to postpone the annual dinner *sine die*, and to hold the meetings in future at the Bentwick Hotel, Station Street, on the first Tuesday in each month.

Three Towns Association.—At a meeting of the Plymouth, Devonport, Stonehouse and District Association of Pharmacists, held on March 19, the Federation Scheme of the Pharmaceutical Society was approved, and the following pharmacists were, with the Divisional Secretaries, appointed to act as the Local Organisation Committee: Messrs. J. D. Turney, E. G. Turney, C. J. Park, F. W. Hunt, R. F. Roper, F. A. Spear, and F. J. Barge (Plymouth), E. Knight and S. A. Perkins (Devonport), F. Maitland (Stonehouse), and W. J. B. Cranoh (Brent).

The Pharmacists of Balham and Clapham Districts met at Mr. Shakerley's Pharmacy, 121 Clapham Park Road, London, S.W., on March 27. It was unanimously decided to apply to the local authority for a compulsory closing order under the *Shops Act*, 1911. There were present Messrs. Walter R. Mitchell (Chairman), W. J. Boyes, G. D. Cooper, D. Colebrook (Lewis & Burrows, Ltd.), A. Elliott (Boots, Ltd.), E. Emmerton, A. P. Evans, C. N. Holmes, R. V. Sanders (Deane & Co.), F. J. Soroston, W. A. Shakerley, A. C. I. Slater, and E. F. Williamson. These gentlemen constitute a committee, with Mr. Mitchell as Hon. Secretary.

Accrington Pharmacists' Association.—A well-attended meeting of this new Association was held at Accrington on March 14, Mr. Wm. Thornlees (President)

in the chair. Rules were discussed and adopted. It was decided to invite the pharmacists of Burnley, Rishton, and the Rossendale Valley to join the Association at a special meeting to be held on April 22, when Mr. Woolcock will speak. An Organisation Committee for Insurance Act purposes was appointed, consisting (*pro tem.*) of the President, Treasurer, and Secretary, Messrs. W. Thornlees, J. S. Snell, and A. J. Espley. After much discussion relating to the pricing of prescriptions, it was decided to leave the pricing to the first pharmacist who dispenses a prescription, others to follow the price marked in cipher.

Newcastle-on-Tyne Pharmacists' Association.—A special meeting was held on March 20 at the Hotel Metropole, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Mr. R. Wright occupied the chair. A discussion on the *Shops Act* was opened by Mr. T. H. Fleming, who pointed out that deputations of tradesmen had approached the authorities asking for a closing-day under the Act. In some cases Wednesday is desired, in others Thursday, while some of the larger shops have already adopted Saturday. Mr. Fleming favoured Wednesday, which is already the closing-day in the East-end of the city. Messrs. Clague, Gibson, Layne, Gray, Dean, and the Chairman expressed their views. Eventually it was decided to seek the opinion of the local chemists whether they are in favour of a compulsory closing order, and, if so, what day would they prefer.

Ulster Drug-trade Association.—A meeting was held at 11 Waring Street, Belfast, on March 21, relative to the *Shops Act*. The committee had the previous week passed a resolution recommending Wednesday as the half-holiday. Mr. W. C. Dobbin presided, and there was a representative attendance. After a general discussion it was unanimously agreed to adopt the half-holiday closing under the Act. There was a further general discussion in reference to the most suitable day for closing, and a resolution was carried in favour of Wednesday. Copies of the resolution were afterwards forwarded to the Belfast Town Clerk by the Secretary (Mr. Jas. Guiler, Ph.C.). The authorities are taking a plebiscite of the traders in the city generally as to the most suitable day, and so far the preponderance is largely in favour of Wednesday.

Halifax Chemists' Association.—Mr. J. W. Tiffany presided over the meeting held on Tuesday, March 26. It was decided to send two guineas to the Pharmaceutical Standing Insurance Committee, and to make a further contribution if necessary. Messrs. J. W. Tiffany (President), R. V. Sutcliffe (Secretary), B. C. Hodgson (Divisional Secretary), Gibson Dixon, W. R. Fielding, and H. C. Brierley were appointed to the Organisation Committee. Mr. Arthur Scott was elected a member of the Association. The *Shops Act* was discussed, but no action taken. In a discussion on the Insurance Act, Mr. Woodward mentioned that a municipal tuberculosis dispensary had been formed in Halifax, and suggested that the Health Committee be approached and asked to give municipal prescriptions to be taken to local chemists. The suggestion was approved.

Brighton Association of Pharmacy.—A special committee-meeting was held on March 22, at 86 King's Road, to decide what action should be taken in connection with the *Shops Act*. The Secretary (Mr. A. J. Franklin) reported that he had taken a canvass of the town, and that more than two-thirds of the chemists were in favour of closing entirely, only six being against. It was decided unanimously to ask the local authorities to take a poll, with a view to obtaining a closing order on Thursdays at 2 p.m., and also to apply for the four months' exemption allowed to season-places, the months suggested for consideration being December, August, and September, also a fortnight at Easter and Whitsun. It was pointed out by the Secretary that the Government is issuing in a few days an explanatory circular of different parts of the Act, which will be useful, and that on a poll being taken each pharmacy will command a separate vote. It was also explained that the four exempted season-months would be selected by the local authorities, and the same months would apply to all trades alike.

Bradford Chemists' Association.—A meeting was held on March 26 at the Royal Hotel. The chair was occupied by the President (Mr. Marmaduke Firth). The first matter dealt with was the appeal for funds for the support of the Joint Committee on the Insurance Act. After discussing the matter, it was resolved to contribute 5l. 5s. A personal subscription was also opened, and realised the sum of 1l. 12s. 6d. The Council of the Association unanimously recommended that the Association should join the Chamber of Trade as a section under the title of the Bradford and District Pharmacists' Section, and that the annual meeting should be advised to sanction the alteration of rules necessary to accomplish that change. After considerable discussion, it was unanimously resolved that this course should be taken. The President reported that a petition for a Half-

day Closing had been signed by forty-one persons on behalf of fifty-five shops in what might be called the centre of the town, and that only six had refused to sign. It was agreed that any action in this direction should be taken by individuals, and not by the Association as such.

Public Pharmacists' and Dispensers' Association.—A meeting was held on March 27 at St. Bride Institute, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C. The lecture hall was quite full. Mr. R. W. Lindsey presided in the absence of Mr. T. H. W. Idris, who had been called out of town, and in his opening remarks mentioned that the question of the representation of public pharmacists and dispensers on the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society had been carefully considered by the Executive, but it was decided that the time is not opportune to run a candidate. Dr. R. L. Sherlock then delivered a lantern-lecture on *Geology and Security*, remarking that his original intention was to show the connection between geology and pharmacy, and to deal in some degree at least with the origin of minerals mentioned in the B.P. He found, however, that it would not be possible to illustrate the topic. Having defined geology as the science which deals with the formation and composition of crust of the earth, Dr. Sherlock traced the formation of the common rocks in the sea, of slate, and the influence of water, the atmosphere, and glacier action. A fine series of lantern slides was shown, and at the conclusion the lecturer replied to a number of questions, and received a vote of thanks.

Sales Managers' Association.—A meeting was held at the Holborn Restaurant, London, W.C., on March 21, when the subject discussed was *Price Maintenance*. Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., was the guest of the evening, and the principal speaker. He defined the object of his address as being the establishment of the proposition that it is desirable that each article sold should bear its proper share of profit, and that it is practicable to fix a minimum price for branded or proprietary goods. Competition causes a continuous cutting of prices until the retailer is selling at a mere fraction above the cost price. The method adopted by the Proprietary Articles Trade Association, he explained, is that the retailer who sells any of the articles on the list at less than the fixed and advertised price has all the goods on that list withheld from him. The fixing of prices is immensely to the advantage of the distributor, who has a reasonable and definite profit, and to that of the proprietor, whose retailers, for their own sakes, would push his goods. Although agreements fixing the selling price of an article are legal, the real power to enforce these is not the law, but the withholding of supplies. Several members took part in the discussion that followed, all being in favour of the proposition. Mr. F. R. Jones pointed out that stoppage of supplies in a single article is not always possible, and also that a firm adopting a fixed price for its goods must be prepared to maintain it, even if it has to refuse business.

Grimsby Pharmacists' Association.—The annual meeting was held at Dring's Hotel on March 21 at 3 p.m., Mr. C. Willson (President) in the chair. Messrs. T. D. Sneath, J. W. Hawdon, W. G. Robinson, R. C. Johnson, C. Dewing, H. Jowett, F. N. Fletcher, H. W. Colley, H. Schofield, W. Humphrey, H. Chapman, and C. H. Ashton (Secretary) were also present. The Secretary's report for 1911 showed progress. The financial statement showed a balance of 6l. 13s. 8d. The Vice-President (Mr. Sneath) congratulated the Secretary on his excellent report, and stated that the Association became more useful every year of its existence, and its subscription was the most profitable investment of the year. Mr. Dewing seconded, and the reports were adopted. The President moved that the thanks of the Association be sent to Mr. F. Heely (formerly the Secretary), who has gone into business at Alford. The following officers were elected: *President*, Mr. C. Willson; *Vice-President*, Mr. T. D. Sneath; *Treasurer*, Mr. R. C. Johnson; *Secretary*, Mr. C. H. Ashton; *Assistant Secretary*, Mr. H. Schofield; *Auditors*, Mr. W. G. Robinson and Mr. C. Dewing. It was agreed, on the motion of Mr. Dewing, seconded by Mr. Willson, that a different President should be elected each year. Among the correspondence was a letter from the Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, giving information as to towns where early-closing orders had been put in operation for chemists. It was decided to leave the matter of early closing until next session. Mr. Dewing initiated a discussion on a *Uniform Price-list*, and it will be taken up at the next meeting.

Oxford Chemists' Association.—The annual meeting was held at the Golden Cross Hotel on Wednesday, March 13, Mr. J. Palmer (President) in the chair. Messrs. C. Bellamy, J. Burbank, Alderman C. Clayton, S. H. Clegg, J. Dolbear, H. C. Gunstone, H. Oddy, F. W. Philpott, and H. C. Goodall (Hon. Secretary and Treasurer) were also present. The annual report reviewed the unusually important and interesting work of the past year, and stated that the

number of members was sixteen. The attendance had been up to the average, and the financial position was satisfactory, the balance in hand being 10*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* The report was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Dolbear, seconded by Mr. Palmer. Mr. Palmer then vacated the chair, and the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: *President*, Mr. Stanley H. Clegg; *Vice-Presidents*, Mr. Burbank and Mr. Palmer; *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*, Mr. Horatio C. Goodall; *Committee*, Mr. Bellamy, Mr. Alderman Clayton, Messrs. Dolbear, Gunstone, and Oddy. Mr. Clegg, on taking the chair, was greeted with a round of applause, and thanked the members for the honour they had conferred on him. Votes of thanks were cordially given to Mr. Palmer (the retiring President) and to Mr. H. C. Goodall (the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer) for their services during the past year. A *Local Organisation Committee*, consisting of the following, was elected: Messrs. Burbank, Clegg, Dolbear, and Goodall. It was resolved to invite the Local Associations' visiting officer to attend the next meeting on April 10 for a friendly talk on pharmaceutical-political matters. It was decided to send a subscription of two guineas to the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance.

Portsmouth Pharmacists had a busy day on March 20. The business of the monthly meeting commenced before three o'clock at the County Club, with Mr. W. A. Bell presiding, and lasted for two hours. The following members attended: Messrs. Attree, Atterbury, Bailey, Baker, Barlow, Bown, Chase, Cruse, Darling, Donaldson, B. Elliott, H. Elliott, Foster, Gall, Gresswell, Harding, Howard, Rhodes, Sparrow, Tremlett, Trist, White, and Postlethwaite (Hon. Secretary). Mr. Tremlett brought on his report of the *Trade Section*, and suggested ways of increasing its usefulness and advantage. The opinion was freely expressed that owners of proprietaries who treated the retailer badly could not be hit too hard by any scheme of self-protection. Five pounds was voted to the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance in response to Mr. Woolcock's appeal. Two new members were elected—viz., Messrs. R. J. Edgar and H. J. Hunt. Mr. White's candidature for the *Pharmaceutical Council Election*, mentioned in the *C. & D.*, was introduced by Mr. Barlow, who, in terms of eulogy, moved a resolution pledging the Association to secure his return by all fair means. Messrs. Cruse, Baker, and others spoke in support, and the meeting enthusiastically concurred. Mr. White promised, if elected, to do his best for the craft at large, and thanked them for their promised assistance. The last subject considered was the *Shops Act*. It was evident that the members are agreed in the desire to secure the half-day on Wednesday, but as time did not permit of going into details another meeting is to be arranged for that purpose.—A couple of hours after the meeting the same members, transformed, appeared with their wives and lady friends at Sandringham House, where a brilliant pharmaceutical company numbering about 120 gathered for a *Whist-drive* arranged by Mr. Stanley Arnold, the Hon. Secretary of the Entertainment Committee. At the close of the play the following received prizes, which were handed them by Mrs. C. H. Baker, the wife of the Vice-President: Mrs. P. Davies, Mrs. Pearce, Miss Hellyer (as gent.), Miss Hammond, Miss Smith, Messrs. Atterbury, Barlow, and H. A. Elliott.

Western Pharmacists' Association.—The adjourned meeting was resumed at the Restaurant Frascati on Wednesday evening, March 27, when the *Shops Act* was discussed. Mr. W. Browne (President) presided over a meeting of about seventy. Mr. A. J. Chater (Assistant Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society) attended to explain the new Act, and also gave a lucid review of the Shops Regulation Acts of 1892 to 1904. Mr. Chater raised questions as to the position of the errand-boy and as regards dispensing under the National Insurance Act, warning the members that early closing may give doctors another argument for dispensing their own prescriptions. The unqualified vendor of medicines must not be overlooked in estimating if there is the requisite majority when a closing order is to be applied for. He also referred to the London County Council's decision (index folio 464). Mr. Lownsbrough (Hon. Secretary) gave statistics in regard to the postcard vote of the Association: 397 cards were sent to chemists in the N.W., S.W., W., and W.C. districts; 246 replies were received, 192 being in favour of half-day closing and fifty-four against. Majorities against were sent in from the Haymarket and Paddington South (Hyde Park) districts only, and opinion was equally divided in Kensington. Thursday was favoured for half-day closing by 153 chemists, Saturday gained thirty-one adherents, Wednesday seven, and Friday one. In the discussion which ensued, the question of half-holiday for the errand-boy, National Insurance dispensing, and advisability of having a closing order in central districts with dispensing businesses were the chief topics. Messrs. C. B. Allen, F. W. Gamble, Etherington,

W. F. Gulliver, J. T. Barrett, J. D. Marshall, F. U. Stamp, H. R. Procter, A. Higgs, A. R. Melhuish, W. Faulkner, F. A. Rogers, J. R. Wretts, F. Wilde, Walton, and Atkin spoke. In replying, Mr. Chater said that if the Association left the matter to the Pharmaceutical Society, the Society would apply to the central authority for general terms applicable to the London district, so as to avoid having to deal with many district authorities and having a closing order applicable to one side of a thoroughfare and not the other. A resolution in favour of half-day closing was passed by forty-eight votes to nine. Votes of thanks to Mr. Chater and the Chairman ended the meeting.

North Staffs Chemists' Association.—Mr. T. C. Cornwell presided at the meeting held at the Roebuck Hotel, Stoke, on March 21. Among those present were Messrs. T. Bentley (Hon. Secretary), J. B. Blades, H. A. Blades, G. H. Cousins, A. W. Tirrell, G. W. Brown, W. D. Edge, E. Comer, and J. A. Floyd (Birmingham). Subscriptions were collected from everyone present for the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance, and the Hon. Secretary undertook to write to the other members asking for subscriptions. Messrs. J. B. Blades, T. C. Cornwell, E. M. Mellor, W. D. Edge, W. H. Kemp, and Edmund Jones, with the Divisional Secretaries for Leek, Stone, Stoke, Hanley, Stafford, and Newcastle, were appointed an *Organisation Committee* under the scheme of Federation of the Pharmaceutical Society. The North Staffordshire Traders' Association wrote asking for the opinion of the members on the proposal to obtain a *Closing Order* for the whole of Stoke-on-Trent for the following hours: Monday, 8; Tuesday, 8; Wednesday, 8; Thursday, 1; Friday, 8; Saturday 10.50. An amendment that the hours should be extended to 8.30 on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 9 on Friday, and 11 on Saturday was defeated, and it was decided to support the original suggestion. A resolution expressing the strong desire of the local chemists for representation on the Health Committees appointed under the *National Insurance Act* was passed. One member mentioned that the doctors in his district had told him frankly that they wanted the dispensing under the Act, and that they meant to have it. A general discussion followed, one question being, "Why is it that there is generally a rush on things that a chemist is short of, and why does the sale drop immediately a supply is obtained?" It was suggested that this is due to the fact that many firms advertise preparations when they put them on the market, with the result that the public inquire for them, and the chemist has to stock them. Then the manufacturers stop advertising, the sale drops, and the stock is left on the chemist's hands. Other matters discussed were what steps should be taken to ensure Mr. Glyn-Jones's return to Parliament at the next general election, the advisability of giving copies of prescriptions, and booking-fees. Resolutions of sympathy were passed with the family of the late Mr. W. H. Oxen, of Newcastle, and with Mr. Cope, of Leek, on the death of his father.

Cardiff Pharmaceutical Association.—A meeting was held at the Angel Hotel, Cardiff, on March 27, Mr. E. Poole presiding. It was decided to subscribe 2*l.* 2*s.* to the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance. Messrs. Jabez A. Jones, A. Hagon, and Leo Joseph were re-elected delegates to the Chamber of Trade. The sub-committee appointed to canvass the pharmacists of the city as to whether they desired the *Shops Act* to be put into operation reported that out of fifty-one possible signatures they had obtained the assent of forty-eight, equivalent to 95 per cent. The hours agreed upon were: for the Central Ward, Monday and Tuesday 7.30, Wednesday 1.30, Thursday and Friday 8, and Saturday 10 o'clock; for the other Wards in the city the hours suggested are: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 8, Wednesday 1.30, Friday 9, and Saturday 11 o'clock. Petitions in favour of these hours, as well as in favour of a compulsory Wednesday half-holiday, have been sent to the Town Clerk, but he stated that they could not possibly obtain the necessary closing orders till May. A large deputation attended from Barry, where seven pharmacists out of ten had signed in favour of the following hours: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 7, Wednesday 1, Friday 9.30, and Saturday 10.30 p.m. Mr. Ben Reynolds said seven o'clock was much too early for Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. Hitherto the hours for those evenings had been 9 o'clock, and he thought they should not close before 8. Mr. Leo Joseph recommended the pharmacists to compromise. Though they in Cardiff could, of course, have enforced a 7 o'clock closing on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, which the bulk of the members favoured, they deemed it better to arrange the hours amicably. He suggested a compromise at Barry on the basis of 7.30 or 7.45 for Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. Mr. A. Hagon reintroduced the subject of *Hanging Signs*, and suggested that they should ask the Chamber of Trade to send a deputation to the Public Works Committee of the Corporation with

the object of getting them to allow signs over shop windows to project more than 3 ft. Unless they did this, all signs projecting more than that distance would have to be removed in May, in accordance with a resolution of the Council. Mr. Hagon thought that a light sign should be allowed to project further than a heavy one. Mr. Jabez A. Jones said the Corporation at one time compelled the removal of signs which projected more than 18 in. He did not think they had ever differentiated between light and heavy signs, and that was a point which might be urged. The suggestion of Mr. Hagon was approved of.

Birkenhead and Wirral Association of Pharmacists.

A MEETING was held on Thursday, March 14, when Dr. Green gave "A Talk on Ambulance Work and the Red Cross Movement." Messrs. Stelfox (President), Govier, Kendall, McIntyre, Pott, Rowlands, Wynne, Elder, Cooke, Stones, Stephen Jones, Cooling, Stockdale, Mellor, Snow, Cookson, White, Grant, Boughen, Sturt, W. G. Snow, Wood, and Caine were present. The address was very much appreciated, and we select from it the following hints:

Cuts.—Unless a wound is very dirty, it is better not to try to clean it unless you have sterilised water at hand. In most cases put on absorbent gauze just as it is, and bind it up. Don't put in sutures. You can do a great deal with a piece of strapping. After the plaster, put on several layers of sterile gauze, and put the arm in a sling.

Varicose Veins.—The bursting of a varicose vein is sometimes an alarming thing, as veins are often very thick. It is not difficult to stop the bleeding. Apply a good thick pad of gauze and bandage firmly, and keep the leg level with the body.

Lungs Bleeding.—You can only apply very general treatment. Let the patient lie flat; avoid excitement. Apply ice to chest if you can get it. Do not give ergot.

Fits.—Do not give alcohol. Give a teaspoonful of sp. ann. aromat. diluted. Coffee and tea are splendid stimulants. They are also antidotal to quite a lot of poisons. Don't give anything by the mouth to an unconscious man. It would go into the lungs instead of the stomach.

Shock may arise from various causes. The patient looks ill, and generally has a white face and pinched features. The hands are cold. Get the patient warm inside and out. Give hot tea and coffee. Use hot flannels and hot-water bottles and rubbing.

Hysteria is generally characterised by noise and irregular motion of the limbs. Convulsions may arise from epilepsy, but one distinction is that in hysteria the movements are purposeless. In epilepsy they are more like clockwork. In hysteria, too, there are little tremors and opening and shutting of the eyes. Give sal volatile, well diluted. If you happen to spill some over the patient all the better; don't be too careful how you give it. Also you might try a little valerian; it will probably buck him up.

Faints.—Face pale, surface cold. Apply friction to the palms. Keep the head low; this causes the head to receive more blood.

Apoplexy and Epilepsy.—An epileptic will have the hand clenched. Open the hand. It will close again, but slowly. Anyone shamming would probably shut it up again like a rat-trap. A screech occurs through spasm. The spasm stops the breathing. The face becomes red, dusky, and bluish owing to want of oxygen. What can you do? No person can stop the fit. You can only guard and guide the patient. Keep in a recumbent position; protect the head from knocking about. Don't give alcohol. In apoplexy the patient is usually stout, red in the face, breathing stertorous. The pupils are dilated and do not react to light. Let him lie still. Raise the head a little. He is not cold, and generally vomits when coming out of a fit. Indigestible food is sometimes sufficient to cause them.

Spasms often mean thirst.

Colic may call for immediate treatment. A carminative, such as ess. ginger or tinct. camph. co., does most good.

Poisons.—Corrosive acids: It is no use to do anything. Emetics only rupture the stomach. All you can do is to give some demulcent to ease the pain—milk, white of egg and oil, olive or castor oil. **Strong alkalies** are nearly as bad as acids. You can give dilute acids, such as dilute vinegar and lemon-juice, and oil as a demulcent. **Opium:** An emetic as soon as possible—mustard, ipecacuanha, or zinc sulphate. Do not allow the patient to go to sleep.

Foreign Body in the Eye.—Apply cocaine solution 6 per cent, or a tablet, and get out the foreign body with a brush. Put in oil; castor oil is good.

Foreign Body in the Ear, such as an insect.—Put in oil; insects breathe through the body; the oil blocks the breathing-apparatus.

Burns and Scalds.—The main idea is to keep the air out. Old-fashioned earron oil is good, and cover with gamgee tissue. Remember never to pull anything. Burnt clothing may stick, and should not be pulled off. Don't try to get rid of it.

The lecturer strongly deprecated counter-prescribing, and explained fully what the Red Cross Society does. Much interest was evinced in the address, which was instructive throughout and lighted by many touches of dry humour. It was found that about a third of those present already possessed the first-aid certificate. Dr. Green was most heartily thanked.

At another largely attended meeting of the Association on March 21 the *Shops Act* was discussed, Mr. Sturt expounding it, and it was agreed:

"That this meeting is of opinion that the Act should be adopted, and that the Secretary be instructed to take a poll of the district by reply postcards as to whether they were in favour of adopting the Act or not."

Festivities.

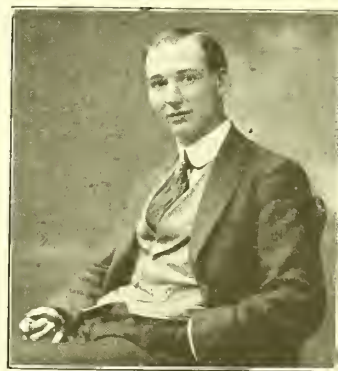
Cambridge Junior Pharmaceutical Association.

At the successful "Social" held by this Association at Croydon Chambers, Regent Street, on March 20, a programme of some two and a half hours' length was well rendered. Mr. Course presided. At the close a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the following gentlemen, who contributed items: Messrs. Course, Titterington, King, Chapple, and Williams.

A Hot-pot Supper was held by the Liverpool Chemists' Association at the Carlton Restaurant, Eberle Street, on Thursday, March 21. There was a large gathering of members and friends, Mr. G. V. C. Last presiding. After the repast an excellent programme of music, etc., was provided by Messrs. Ashton (Warrington), Kendall, Weber, Haskell, King, Rowling, and Allen. A vote of thanks to them was proposed by Mr. Harold Wyatt, Mr. Allen responding.

Merry Chemists' Assistants.—The thirty-fifth annual dinner of the Chemists' Assistants' Association was held on March 21 in the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, London, W.C., on March 21. The President (Mr. F. Naylor) was in the chair, and the company numbered close on three hundred. Among those present were Messrs. C. B. Allen (President

of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain), A. R. Arrowsmith (Apollinaris Co.), F. W. Ashton (Idris, Ltd.), A. Proctor Atkinson (Duncan, Flockhart & Co.), R. R. Bennett, A. Boyes (Baiss Bros. & Stevenson, Ltd.), E. H. Brittain, R. H. Brittain, A. B. Britton (S. Maw, Son & Sons), C. Brooks (American Drug Stores), W. Browne (Western Pharmacists' Association), Cakebread (Ashton & Parsons, Ltd.), Cicero S. Clarke, L. Cooper (C. H. Phillips Chemical Co.), F. W. Crossley-Holland (Menley & James), H. R. Culling, R. D. Dixon, W. R. Dixon (Croydon Pharmacists' Association), J. Wellesley Douglas, H. B. Everson, Alan Francis (The British Drug Houses, Ltd.), W. S. Gill (W. J. Bush & Co.), H. Grange, A. Haigh, H. Hickey (Parke, Davis & Co.), A. E. Holden (Fairchild Bros. & Foster), A. Latreille, R. E. Lowndsbrough, F. L. K. Loxley, C. W. Martin (S. Maw, Son & Sons), A. R. Melhuish, J. Langford Moore, C. A. Noble, W. E. Northey, P. B. Phillips, C. S. Present (Sangers), R. J. Reuter, A. J. Rickford (Allen & Hanburys, Ltd.), W. Roberts, F. Pilkington Sargeant (Leeds), F. Sayers, A. Shillcock, A. Solomon, W. P. Styles, A. B. V. Taffs, G. A. Tocher, Percy Trick, F. W. Truman, S. C. G. Tweedy, Dr. N. Walmisley, W. P. Want, E. Warwick, R. C. Warwick, T. R. Williams (Wright, Layman & Umney, Ltd.), G. S. V. Wills (Westminster College), and R. Winfrey, M.P. After the toast of "The King," Mr.



MR. FRANK NAYLOR.

F. W. Crossley-Holland, F.C.S., proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society," which, he said, is now dealing with matters which affect everyday pharmacists, and consequently the deliberations of the Council are being followed with considerable interest. Mr. C. B. Allen, who was well received, replied, and gave his recollections of the early days of the Association. The Association was being revived at the time when he (Mr. Allen) first came to London, and among the members with whom he came in contact were Messrs. Branson, Stuart—whose recent death all lament—Wrenn, Braithwaite, Millhouse, Hartridge, Saul, Dodd, and Winfrey. (Cheers.) These men did able work and ran the Pharmaceutical Society a good second. Referring to a remark of the proposer, Mr. Allen said the Society will have to apply for an old-age pension if the outgoings continue on the present scale, much expense having been caused by the organisation needed by the National Insurance Act. He drew an analogy between the fight in 1868 regarding the Poisons Regulations and the present battle about the National Insurance Act. He contended that the Society is a truly democratic institution, as the members have it in their power to turn out a large proportion of the Council every year. This year there is a large number of candidates for the Council. The next toast, by Mr. W. Browne, was that of "The C.A.A." The proposer specially referred to the large number of distinguished men who have been connected with the Association, and felt sure that the rate of progress would be well maintained. Mention was made of the papers contributed during the session, among them being one by Mr. P. B. Phillips on "Emulsion," which has gained the Burroughs Wellcome prize. The President (Mr. Naylor) replied, and made reference to the question of Imperial reciprocity, which he said would largely benefit chemists' assistants. He added that the Shops Act would be a boon to many assistants. Mr. W. P. Styles proposed the toast of "The Visitors," to which Mr. F. Pilkington Sargeant replied. The latter referred to newly qualified men as exceedingly learned. In his opinion, examinations are like mydriatic alkaloids—they always produced highly dilated pupils. He regarded the Chemists' Assistants' Association as necessary to counteract the narrowing influence of the chemist's calling. The last toast, enthusiastically received, was that of Mr. A. R. Arrowsmith, the Secretary of the Dinner Organising Committee. Mr. Arrowsmith briefly replied. The musical programme was above the average, one item by Mr. Will Edwards, entitled "The Chemist's Assistant," provoking roars of laughter by the trade allusions it contained.

WESTMINSTER WISDOM.

The Week in Parliament.

NOTES.

The adjournment for the Easter recess will be from Wednesday, April 3, until Tuesday, April 9.

Mr. Richard Winfrey, M.P., was one of the Liberals who voted against the Government on the "5 and 2" amendment to the Coal Mines Minimum Wage Bill.

It is expected that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will be in a position to announce a surplus of between 4,000,000*l.* and 5,000,000*l.* on the year's income and expenditure.

We are informed that Mr. Theodore Taylor, M.P., proposes to raise the whole question of the use of opium, as well as morphine and cocaine, if opportunity permits, on the salary of the Colonial Secretary.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer had to answer a question by Mr. Cave on Wednesday regarding the new regulations respecting British and foreign wines, there being nothing in either which we have not published.

The educational group of members of Parliament discussed the question of adolescent labour not protected by existing legislation at the House of Commons on Wednesday, and came to the conclusion that adequate protection for shop and office boys can only be secured by Act of Parliament.

Mr. Burns informed Sir John Lonsdale on Wednesday that the adulteration of flour by chemical means can be adequately dealt with by the ordinary law against adulteration. He is considering whether it is possible to deal with some of the practices by regulations under the Public Health (Regulations as to Food) Act, 1907.

PORT OF LONDON AUTHORITY BILL.

The Port of London Authority Bill on March 22 passed the Committee of the House of Commons on unopposed

measures, and was ordered for third reading. Among other matters it gives power for the compulsory acquisition of about three acres of land between Seething Lane, Crutched Friars, Savage Gardens, and Trinity Square, E.C.

REGISTRATION OF FIRMS BILL.

The second reading of this Bill of Lord Rotherham's was carried in the House of Lords on Tuesday evening, after which the Bill was referred to a Select Committee. The Earl of Granard, for the Board of Trade, said that, while the Government agree to the principle of the Bill, they consider that some of the details are open to criticism. Consequently they think that it should be referred to a committee.

INEBRIATES AND DRUGS.

The Home Office Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the treatment of inebriates follows very closely upon the lines, as foreshadowed in the *C. & D.*, of the recommendations of the Departmental Committee which inquired into the whole question some time ago. The Bill is a very compendious one, consisting of no fewer than fifty-three clauses, but there is no possibility, of course, that any progress can be made with it during the present already overcrowded Session.

THE SHOPS ACT, 1911.

The Home Secretary has caused an intimation to be conveyed to Mr. Tyson Wilson, M.P., that his approval is not required for the arrangements made by local authorities in regard to the inspection of shops in pursuance of Section 7 of this Act, but that he has made inquiry and is informed that the question of the arrangements to be made for the City of London is still under consideration by a committee of the Corporation, and has not yet come before the Corporation. Mr. Tyson Wilson had asked Mr. McKenna whether he was aware that the City Corporation proposed to add the duties associated with the inspection of shops under the new Act to those of an official who is already overworked.

THE BUDGET.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer will make his annual financial statement in the House of Commons on Tuesday next, and, in view of the crisis in the coal trade, unusual interest is being manifested in the nature of Mr. Lloyd George's announcement. Mr. Masterman stated on Tuesday to a deputation which waited upon him from the London and Manchester Chambers of Commerce, the Manufacturing Alliance, the Confectioners' Association of the United Kingdom, the National Union of Mineral Water Manufacturers, and other bodies, who asked for the abolition of the sugar bounties, that the crisis must have a substantial influence upon the budgetting for the revenue of the next year, and, if it lasted for any considerable time, might cause a complete change in the Budget for the year.

THE PRICE OF ACETONE.

In the House of Commons on Monday Colonel Seely, Under-Secretary of State for War, replying to Mr. Charles Bathurst, stated that the wood-distillation works in Dean Forest are to be completed towards the end of the year and that the manufacture of grey acetate of lime, from which acetone is made, will then be commenced. In reply to a second question, he stated that the price of acetone fluctuates considerably. The highest level was reached about five years ago; it then dropped, and during the past year has again been moving up. A recent purchase by the War Office showed an increase of price of about 28 per cent. as compared with prices a year ago. About 47 per cent. of the acetone bought by the War Office during the last twelve months was made in this country; of the balance the bulk has been obtained from Canada, but none from Germany.

ARMY DISPENSERS AND APOTHECARIES' ASSISTANTS.

In the House of Commons on March 21 Captain Craig asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether, in view of the date of the National Insurance Act coming into force, he will state what steps have been taken in conjunction with the Pharmaceutical Society to frame by-laws under Clause 4 (*b*) of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, for the registration of Army

compounders and apothecaries' assistants as chemists. Mr. McKenna replied that he was informed that the Pharmaceutical Society are in communication with the War Office on the matter as regards qualified military dispensers, and that the question of certified assistants to apothecaries is also receiving the Society's active consideration.

[This question was given in the *C. & D.*, March 23, and the answer in the Supplement. They are reprinted together for convenience of future reference.—EDITOR, *C. & D.*]

PROPRIETARY-MEDICINE INQUIRY.

Our Parliamentary correspondent is informed that negotiations are proceeding between the party Whips at the House of Commons as to the *personnel* of the Select Committee which is about to be set up for the purpose of inquiring into the whole question of proprietary medicines as promised originally by Lord Gladstone when Home Secretary. The *personnel* may not be tabled until the week in which the House reassembles. "I am told officially," writes our Parliamentary correspondent, "that there is a desire not to have any special interests represented—only a business Committee of Parliamentarians." Among the names freely mentioned were Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, Parliamentary Secretary to the Pharmaceutical Society, Mr. A. Lynch, Captain Craig, Dr. W. A. Chappel, the member for Stirlingshire, Dr. John Esmonde, and Sir Henry Dalziel. Mr. Charles Bathurst proposes to ask the Home Secretary on Wednesday of next week if he is now in a position to announce the names of the Committee, and the terms of reference. It is believed that Mr. Bathurst will be a member of the Committee.

Mr. A. Lynch will put a breaking-bulk question to the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Monday. It is :

"Whether he is aware that concessions are granted by the Inland Revenue authorities enabling patent medicines to be retailed in small quantities, in such a manner as to lessen the revenue of these products; that this practice also facilitates the distribution of quack medicines to poor people; that such concessions give rise to prosecutions for spurious imitations; and whether he will take steps to put an end to the practice."

[Sir Jesse Boot and Mr. Kenningham (Condy & Mitchell) have been lobbying on the subject all this week, and have seen many influential members of the House of Commons in the interests of the proprietors of proprietaries. In a chat with Mr. Kenningham, he confirmed our Parliamentary correspondent's statement that the names of the members of the Committee will not be known until after the Easter recess. It is expected that the Committee will consist of sixteen members of the House of Commons—six Conservatives, six Liberals, two Irish members, and two Labour members. It is hoped to exclude from the Committee extreme partisans; but that, it is recognised, will be most difficult to effect.—EDITOR, *C. & D.*]

FOOD PRESERVATIVES—THE LABEL FOR CREAM.

Replying to Mr. B. Stanier in the House of Commons on Monday the President of the Local Government Board stated that under the Rules Publication Act, 1893, the Board are required to consider any representations or suggestions which are made in writing by any public body interested before an order is finally settled. Notice of the intention to make regulations as to the use of preservatives in cream was published in the "London Gazette" on February 20, and the statutory period for the making of such representations or suggestions forty days from that date. Supplementary questions in regard to the matter were asked by Mr. Peto, Mr. Page Croft, and Mr. Stanier. The last-named gentleman showed our Parliamentary correspondent the label objected to. The whole matter was again the subject of interrogatories on Wednesday, Captain Faber, Mr. Bridgeman, Mr. Peto, Mr. O'Shaughnessy, Sir F. Flannery, and Mr. Bathurst being among the querists. The whole trouble is about the declaration of boric acid. Mr. Bathurst was asked by Mr. Burns to suggest an alternative name to "Preserved cream, boricised," and he advocated the use of the word "aseptic" as being likely to meet the situation; but Mr. Burns replied that that suggested a bandage or a hospital ward.

THE MANUFACTURE OF VINEGAR.

In reply to Mr. Charles Bathurst, M.P., the President of the Local Government Board stated on Tuesday that

there is no statutory definition of vinegar for the purposes of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, but, in view of the numerous representations made to them on the subject, the Board had stated their views as to the proper significance of the terms "vinegar," "malt vinegar," and "artificial vinegar" in a letter addressed to the Secretary of the London and County Vinegar Brewers' Association (*C. & D.*, January 13, index folio 36). The Board have no power to authorise prosecutions under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.—Mr. Bathurst inquired what steps would be taken to ensure that the letter in question would be acted upon.—Mr. Burns said he would send the hon. member a copy. He could assure him, however, that it gave great satisfaction to those in favour of pure vinegar, and there is a probability that the definition set forth in the letter may be adopted by manufacturers and others.—Mr. A. Lynch asked the right hon. gentleman whether he was aware of the fact that in regard to vinegar the important matter was not the percentage of acetic acid, but the presence of by-products according as to whether vinegar is prepared by distillation or by fermentation from beer-wort or wine. No reply was returned.

ALKALI MANUFACTURERS AND GAS COMPANIES.

Our Parliamentary correspondent is informed that during the last few days negotiations have been in progress between the various parties concerned with a view to framing a clause which will give full effect to the decision recently announced by Lord Ritchie's House of Lords' Committee on the petition of the Alkali Manufacturers' Association against the South Suburban Gas Bill in reference to the manufacture of residual products, as reported in last week's *C. & D.* The gas company has now submitted the following form of words :

"The South Suburban Co. shall not purchase residual products arising from the manufacture of gas other than those required for the manufacture and supply of gas by the company and the conversion and working up of residual products arising therefrom."

The petitioners contend that this would still allow the gas companies to buy in the open market non-residual products such as sulphur and pyrites and use them separately in the manufacture of chemicals. They submitted the following clause :

"The South Suburban Co. shall not purchase materials other than those required for the manufacture and supply of gas by the company, except for the purpose of working up their own residual products."

The company's reply to this is that if they are to be prevented from buying chemicals for the purpose of working up their own residual products, half the gas industry in the country would come to an end.

The question was again before Lord Ritchie's Committee on Tuesday. Lord Ritchie suggested to counsel on both sides that the following clause would meet the necessities of the case :

"The South Suburban Co., notwithstanding anything in any Act relating to their undertaking or any part thereof, shall not purchase, or use in any process of manufacture, any materials other than those required for the making and supply of gas by them, or for the working-up of their own residual products, or for the construction, maintenance, and repair of their gasworks or of gas-fittings."

Mr. Honoratus Lloyd, K.C., representing the promoters, accepted the clause, but suggested that the word "for" should be inserted after the words "shall not purchase." Without such an amendment, he said, it might be suggested that the company had no power to buy a typewriter. He also thought the words "plant and buildings" should be added to the end of the clause.

Mr. Fitzgerald, K.C., for the Alkali Manufacturers' Association, while consenting to the addition of the words "plant and buildings," protested against the insertion of the word "for."

The Committee postponed their decision until Wednesday, when the Chairman intimated that the Committee were not prepared to accept the word "for."

The clause, as amended by the addition of the words "plant and buildings," was accordingly inserted in the Bill.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Select Committee of the House of Commons which considered the Annfield and Fleetwood Gas Bills, both of which were opposed by the Alkali Manufacturers' Association, counsel on Tuesday reported to the committee the result of the attempt to draft a clause acceptable to both sides. Mr. Honoratus Lloyd, K.C., representing the promoters of the Annfield Bill, submitted a clause based upon a draft clause suggested by Lord Ritchie earlier in the day in relation to the South Suburban Gas Bill. The clause was in the following terms:

"Notwithstanding anything contained in the Act of 1907 or this Act, the company shall not purchase for, or use in, the process of manufacture any materials other than those required for the manufacture and supply of gas by them, or the working up of their own residual products, or for the construction, maintenance, and repair of their gas works, plant, buildings, or gasfittings."

Mr. Macassey, for the Alkali Manufacturers' Association, objected to the inclusion of the word "for" after "shall not purchase" on the ground that the company would otherwise be able to purchase for re-sale.

Mr. Hutchinson, on behalf of the Fleetwood promoters, accepted the clause.

Sir Harry Samuel, Chairman of the committee, suggested that counsel would be able to agree upon the following clause:

"The company shall not purchase the residual products of any gas company, or manufacture chemicals except for the purpose of working up their own residual products or of using them in connection with the production and supply of gas or gasfittings."

Counsel for the promoters of the Bills accepted the Chairman's clause as better than that originally submitted; but Mr. Macassey objected to it. The Chairman's clause, he said, conferred on the gas company the power, which he was not aware it had before, of extracting chemicals for the working up of its own products. He did not for a moment appreciate that that was the intention of the committee to give the companies full power to manufacture chemicals for the working up of its own residuals.

The Chairman pointed out that there was nothing permissive about the clause. The clause gave the alkali manufacturers everything in reason which they asked for. They were given protection. If counsel could not agree upon a clause, the committee would decide the matter.

Mr. Macassey stated that of the two he preferred the original clause, even without the amendment he had suggested.

The clause originally submitted by counsel was accordingly inserted as an agreed clause.

TRADE-MARKS.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications must be stated on Form T.M. No. 7 (obtainable at Money Order Offices for £1) and lodged with Mr. Temple Franks, Comptroller-General, Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned.

The figures in parentheses refer to the classes in which the marks are desired.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," March 6, 1912.)

"EMO"; for photographic papers (39). By J. J. Griffin & Sons, Ltd., Kingsway, London, W.C. 339,164.

"PASCON"; for a protein food-substance (42). By S. A. Vasey, Beechcroft, Burnt Ash Lane, Bromley. 338,027.

"MERLIN," for goods (47) and perfumery (48); "PANTO," for goods (47). By Lever Bros., Ltd., Port Sunlight, Cheshire. 339,337/8, 339,468.

"TARCOLENE"; for goods (48). By R. S. Clare & Co., Ltd., 8-14 Stanhope Street, Liverpool. 337,928.

"CAULDRON" and picture of same; for soaps (48). By New Hydroleine Co., Ltd., Castle Soap-works, Ashby-de-la-Zouch. 339,241.

"HOLOXAN"; for all goods (48). By Meister, Lucius & Brunning, Hoechst a Main, Germany. 339,588.

"RIFFLE"; for perfumery, etc. (48). By G. W. Goodwin & Son, Ordsall Lane Soap-works, Manchester. 339,696.

TRADE REPORT.

The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock, after which much expense may be incurred in garbling and the like. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, oils, and many other commodities vary greatly, and higher prices than those here quoted are charged for selected qualities of natural products even in bulk quantities. Retail buyers cannot, therefore, for these and other reasons, expect to purchase at the prices quoted here.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., March 28.

THE curtailment of railway and shipping facilities in many directions, and the closing down of chemical factories in various centres as the result of the industrial crisis, leaves business in a parlous condition. This, the fourth week of the coal strike, has brought about a breakdown in the conferences between mineowners and men, and legislation has been invoked. At the time of writing, the duration of the strike remains uncertain. The chief event in chemicals is the unsettled feeling in iodine preparations, the Chilian Syndicate having withdrawn their quotation as the result of "outside" influences. Glycerin continues weak and unsettled as the result of the withdrawal of two leading refiners, and lower prices are anticipated for chemically pure. Yet a further advance is anticipated in santonin. Both copper and ammonium sulphates are dearer. In drugs, there is little business doing. Cod-liver oil is nominally unchanged, with a weak undertone. Areca is scarce and wanted, like sarsaparilla. Soudan gum acacia is firmer on spot, and olibanum is steady. Ignatius-beans have been cleared, and for kola full rates have been paid. Senega is firmer. Vanilla firsts at auction realised fully previous prices to an advance for firsts. Among essential oils, star anise and cassia oils are cheaper. Eucalyptus oil is arriving freely, but mostly against contract. Lemon oil is quiet and slightly easier, bergamot and orange being unaltered. In miscellaneous articles, glucose and starch-powder are again 6d. higher. Milk-sugar is lower. Shellac is about steady, and turpentine on narrow fluctuations is substantially unaltered. The subjoined table shows the chief alterations of the week:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Ammonia chloride	Benzols	Balsam	Anise-oil, star
Ammonia sulphate	Copper sulphate	Canada Burdock (cut)	Cassia oil
Glucose	Gum acacia (Soudan)	Lemon oil	Milk sugar
Resin	Jalap	Pepper	Opium
Starch-powder	Senega	Potash carb.	
Vanilla (firsts)	Soda nitrate		
	Tamarindos (W.I.)		

Cablegrams.

BERGEN, March 28.—The total catch of cod for the whole of Norway since the beginning of the season amounts to 44,404,000, against 24,308,000 at the corresponding period of last year. The total yield of steam-refined oil is now 34,860 hectolitres, against 17,336 hectolitres at the same time of 1911. The fishing in the Lofoten districts is unsatisfactory this week, but the prospects for Finnmarken are promising. The market for finest non-congealing Norwegian oil is dull, with sellers at about 68s. per barrel, c.i.f. terms.

NEW YORK, March 21.—Business in drugs is moderate. Opium is a further 25c. per lb. lower at \$7.85 for drug-gists' in cases. Peppermint oil in tins is easy at \$2.85.

Hydrastis (golden seal) is firmer at \$5.05. Cascara sagrada is dull at 8½c. Copaiba balsam is steady at 48c. for Central and South American. Canada balsam fir is easier at \$3.75 per gallon.

NEW YORK, March 27.—Business in drugs is dull. Opium is 10c. lower at \$7.75 per lb., and peppermint oil in tins is quiet at \$2.85. Cascara sagrada is quoted at 8½c. Central and South American copaiba remains steady at 49c. Hydrastis is firmer at \$5.15, but Cartagena ipecacuanha is dull at \$1.45. Curaçao aloes is dearer at 8½c., and senega is also higher, 63c. being the price.

London Markets.

ALCOHOL.—The German Spirit Centrale has quite recently withdrawn its price. Consumers have, however, been able to draw supplies, but without knowing at what prices deliveries would be invoiced until the close of last week. Such policy has unsettled market conditions. Spirit preparations had to be delivered in the interim, which caused inconveniences to retailers as terms could not be properly fixed. Meanwhile the Committee of the Centrale has decided to raise its selling price by 8 marks to 50 marks, to be effective from March 25, this, however, not applying to burning spirit, the rebate price of which remains at 46 marks. These prices are for the home market only and do not affect export, which are unchanged.

ALOE.—The remaining three cases Zanzibar aloes, which were good block on leaves ex auction, have now been cleared. No arrivals of any description are reported this week.

AMMON. CHLORIDE is 10s. per ton higher, the value of small crystals being 28½ 10s., medium 29½ 10s., and large 30½ 10s. for lots up to one ton.

ANISE OIL (STAR).—Recent arrivals have brought about an easier tone with spot sellers at 5s. 10d. for "Red Ship," and at 5s. 9d. to 5s. 10½d. per lb. c.i.f. for April-May shipment.

ARECA.—Good sound nuts are scarce and wanted; for a small lot of Ceylon 19s. per cwt. has been paid.

ASAFTIDA.—The recent offerings at auction have now been practically cleared, this especially applying to the common grades, there being nothing obtainable below 90s. per cwt., and that for brown sandy block. The February deliveries were good—400 cases—and it is anticipated the March deliveries will be equally so.

BENZOLIN.—The *Ajax* has brought 120 cases Sumatra from Singapore.

BERGAMOT OIL remains firm and unaltered at from 30s. to 32s. per lb. c.i.f., and on the spot the value is about 30s.

BROMIDES.—At a recent meeting of the German Bromine Convention, held to discuss its renewal, which has been prolonged by a temporary arrangement from December 1911 till April 1, the question of the new allotments demanded by members received attention. The negotiations, however, led to no definite result, and the handling of the allotment question has been delegated to a special committee, which is to meet again before the end of the month. The makers quote potassium bromide on the basis of 1s. 3½d. per lb. for 1-cwt. lots, no forward contracts being booked.

BUCHU.—The *Kinfauns Castle* has brought 48 packages, the bulk of which are in transit. There is no business to report this week, the value of round being from 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d., ovals 1s. 6d. to 1s. 10d., and genuine longs 2s. 6d. upwards. In further reference to the exports from the Cape for January (which, as noted last week, amounted to 14,734 lb.), we find that this is the smallest quantity recorded for a number of years, but we have reason to believe the February exports (the official figures for which have not yet been published) were larger than in February 1911, being placed at about 58,000 lb., as against 39,000 lb. This is natural, seeing that the collection of buchu from Crown Forest Reserves is limited this year to February and March only. At this date the bulk of the crop has been collected and it is anticipated that the shipments will begin to decrease shortly. The *Buluwayo* has brought 20 bales in transit.

BURDOCK-ROOT is easier, with cut Belgian offering at 31s. per cwt. c.i.f. terms.

CARDAMOMS.—The exports from Ceylon during the period January 1 to March 4 have been: 1912, 67,822 lb.; 1911, 91,281 lb.; 1910, 157,117 lb.; 1909, 112,754 lb. This year the United Kingdom has received 21,458 lb., against 37,263 lb.; and Germany 24,120 lb., against 28,307 lb.; India, 6,631 lb., against 14,964 lb.; U.S.A., 5,390 lb., against 3,621 lb.; and Scandinavia, 2,160 lb., against 62 lb.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Since the auction small sales of new imports have been made at 37s. 6d. on the spot, and in one direction a small sale of old bark has been made at 43s.

CASSIA OIL.—Spot is easier, with small sales of 80 to 85 per cent. c.a. at 3s. 8d., and 70 to 75 per cent. c.a. at 3s. 6d. per lb.; for arrival, 80 to 85 per cent. is quoted 3s. 10d., 75 to 80 per cent. 3s. 8d., and 70 to 75 per cent. 3s. 6d. c.i.f.

CHIRETTA.—From second-hands retail sales are reported at 10d. per lb.

CITRIC ACID is flat, at 1s. 4d. for English and 1s. 3½d. to 1s. 3¼d. for foreign.

COCAINE.—The reduction last week in one make of hydrochloride by about 1s. 4d. to 7s. per oz. net, has been followed by other makers reducing their quotations for minimum lots to 7s. 4d., less 5 per cent., so that all makers are on the same level.

COD-LIVER OIL.—The market continues weak, with the usual brands of new-crop Norwegian oil offering at from 65s. to 68s. per barrel c.i.f., but probably 2s. 6d. less would be accepted for prompt shipment by one or two holders in Norway who, carrying a heavy stock of crude oil, have been severely hit by the rapid decline in prices. Recently more business has been done in Norway, and this has perhaps given more tone to the market; but, as we point out elsewhere, the future will depend on the fishing at Finnmarken.

Our Bergen correspondent writes on March 23 that, owing to the scarcity of coal, the number of mail-steamer for England has been reduced. The Lofoten fishing has been rather poor this week, but in other districts the catch has been satisfactory, and the reports received from Finnmarken to-day are promising. The market for finest new non-congealing is quiet and unaltered at 67s., which figure is nominal; last year's oil is offered at about 63s. per barrel c.i.f. terms.

Advices from Norway dated March 18 state that fishing operations have upon the whole been favoured with fine weather, and the results are considered satisfactory. The livers are gradually becoming smaller, and in Lofoten it requires from 550 to 650 to fill one hectolitre, while in other districts from 900 to 1,000 livers are required. Up to March 16 the catch and output were as follows:

Lofoten.

		Catch of Cod	Yield of c.l.o. (hect.)	Livers for Raw Oils (hect.)
1912	...	9,900,000	7,826	700
1911	...	6,200,000	4,832	468
1910	...	10,000,000	9,926	1,335
1909	...	8,000,000	10,100	1,425

Whole of Norway.

1912	...	35,900,000	28,932	4,588
1911	...	17,300,000	12,574	3,382
1910	...	23,000,000	20,679	6,439
1909	...	21,300,000	24,799	6,957

A cable advice from Alesund shows that the catch and output of cod-liver oil up to March 23 were as follows:

		Catch of Cod	Livers for Raw Oil (hect.)	Yield of c.l.o. (hect.)
Lofoten, 1912	...	12,100,000	856	9,270
" 1911	...	8,000,000	584	6,143
Whole of Norway, 1912	...	44,600,000	5,370	34,701
" " 1911	...	24,300,000	4,241	17,336

COLOCYNTH.—Small lots of *pulp* are selling at from 6d. to 6½d. per lb.; stocks are now becoming reduced.

COPPER SULPHATE is very firm and dearer, ordinary Liverpool brands offering at 23½ 10s. per ton for March-April delivery, and 23½ for May-June.

CREAM OF TARTAR is firm at 83s. per cwt. for 98-per-cent. and 81s. for 95-per-cent. powder.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—Subsequent to the auctions, four cases of dullish seedy and slightly damp lump changed hands at 6*l.* 15*s.* per cwt. The *Ajax* has brought ten cases from Singapore. The 13 cases offered in auction last week have been rejected by the importer and are to be reshipped to Singapore. They were bought as hand picked reboiled lump, but the gum was only about one-quarter picked.

EUCALYPTUS OIL.—Arrivals aggregating 275 cases have taken place per *Tydeus* from Australian ports, but the bulk is for delivery against contract. B.P. oil has been sold at 1*s.* 2*d.* per lb.

GAMBOGE.—The whole of the London first-hand stock, with the exception of 12 cases, has now been cleared; second-hands ask 14*l.* for fair Siam pipe part blocky.

GLYCERIN.—The fact that both Messrs. Joseph Crosfield & Sons, Ltd., and Messrs. William Gossage & Sons, Ltd., have now definitely decided to withdraw from the Chemically Pure Glycerin Association from March 30 leaves the market in a weak and unsettled condition, and although it cannot be said that the Convention has actually collapsed, the so-called official price for chemically pure is quite nominal, and lower prices may be looked for. It would appear that the various constituents of the Convention have not been able to finally adjust matters to the satisfaction of all parties concerned, and accordingly negotiations have been finally broken off.

A meeting of the Glycerin Convention has been held this afternoon. It was intimated that Messrs. Crosfield & Sons and W. Gossage & Sons had definitely withdrawn their resignations of the membership of the Association, so that matters will go on as before.

GLUCOSE has advanced a further 6*d.* per cwt., the usual brands of liquid and crystals offering at 13*s.* 4*d.* per cwt. in lots of at least 25 barrels, smaller quantities being 3*d.* per cwt. more.

GUM ACACIA.—Soudan sorts are firmer on the spot at 42*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., and for March-April shipment from 33*s.* to 34*s.* per cwt. c.i.f. has been paid, sellers now asking 34*s.* 6*d.* c.i.f. In Senegal gum there is little obtainable, the small supplies arriving in Bordeaux selling on the basis of 35*s.* 9*d.* per cwt. f.o.b.

IGNATIUS-BEANS.—The first-hand stock, practically 100 bags, has been cleared for Continental account at about 50*s.* per cwt.

IODINE PREPARATIONS.—The makers of iodine compounds announced on Monday that the Iodine Syndicate had temporarily suspended their price for iodine. In these circumstances, makers have withdrawn their quotations for the preparations, and can only supply at prices to be fixed after the price of iodine has been decided. Orders are, however, being accepted by the makers on the guarantee that the prices will in no case exceed those quoted in their March prices-current; in the event of a reduction in iodine, such orders will be given the benefit of the reduction when invoiced. It will be recalled that the price of *potassium iodide* was advanced 7*d.* per lb. on February 12, to 8*s.* 6*d.* per lb. in 1-cwt. lots, the other compounds remaining unaltered at 9*s.* 10*d.* for *sodium iodide* in 28-lb. lots, 15*s.* for *ammonium iodide*, and 11*s.* 8*d.* for *iodoform*. The present unsettled conditions appear to be brought about by the fact that the Chilian Iodine Syndicate anticipate trouble on the part of one or two "outsiders" who probably are not satisfied with the terms and conditions on which they are to be included in the ring.

KOLA.—The lot of 17 bags West Indian ex last week's auction have now been disposed of at 5*d.* per lb.

LEMON OIL.—Last week's easier feeling continues in Sicily, from whence shippers quote new crop at from 6*s.* 1*d.* to 6*s.* 6*d.* per lb. e.i.f., according to brand.

A Palermo advice dated March 23 states that, although local requirements for March delivery have not yet been fully covered, trade has continued very dull, and the market is slightly easier. Business is of a strictly hand-to-mouth character, as consumers abroad and local dealers are not wishful to support the efforts of bulls. At the same time, it appears as if previous blank engagements are not so heavy, this helping the easier feeling. It is anticipated that after the end of the month the future developments will appear somewhat more definite, as by that time contracts made for December to March delivery will have been ful-

filled. For prompt shipment, new crop is quoted at 6*s.* 6½*d.* per lb. e.i.f.

LIQUORICE-ROOT.—Common natural remains scarce at 15*s.* per cwt. spot, and for good Russian decorticated 30*s.* has been paid.

MAIZE-STARCH has advanced a further 6*d.* per cwt., to 12*s.* 3*d.* for powder and 12*s.* for pearl, in lots of at least two tons; smaller quantities are 3*d.* per cwt. extra.

MILK-SUGAR is again cheaper, dealers offering B.P. powder at 68*s.* per cwt. Fair arrivals are taking place from various ports.

MUSK.—Tonquin continues scarce for both blue-skin and old-fashioned qualities; 82*s.* per oz. is asked for the former and 60*s.* per oz. for the latter. Russian Cabardine is quoted 19*s.*

MYRRH.—A small parcel of Aden sorts has arrived genuine.

OLIBANUM steady, with small sales of fair drop at 47*s.* 6*d.* for old crop, and at 21*s.* for siftings.

OPIMUM.—With the news as regards the outlook for the new Turkey crop continuing good, holders, both on the spot and in primary markets, are anxious to meet the market before any decided break occurs, but buyers are indifferent at the moment, in anticipation of lower prices. On the spot, good Turkey druggists' is worth about 24*s.* per lb.; soft shipping qualities still remain very dear, probably not more than 20 to 30 cases being available here, the prices asked being from 28*s.* to 29*s.* per lb. Persian is nominal at from 25*s.* to 26*s.*, and for forward shipment there are offers at 23*s.* c.i.f., but no takers. The only sale reported this week from Smyrna is about a dozen cases druggists' testing 11½ per cent. at the parity of 19*s.* 8*d.* per lb. e.i.f. on the part of a weak holder.

A Smyrna correspondent writes on March 15 that the sales for the week amount to eight cases new current tale-qualé qualities at the equivalent of 20*s.* 6*d.* per lb. for America. The weather conditions continue to be favourable, and the reports from growers are very satisfactory, which leads us to expect, if all goes well until the harvesting period, that we shall have a crop of about 7,000 cases, including Salonica. Some holders, however, of extra Karahissar and Yerli firmly maintain their high pretensions, but if a large buyer came forward at, say, about 22*s.* to 24*s.* for 11 per cent. to 12 per cent., many holders would sell. On the other hand, it must be borne in mind that there are many risks ahead, for dry hot weather in April and May would cause a decrease in the estimate. The arrivals in Smyrna amount to 1,143 cases, against 4,386 at same date last year.

ORANGE OIL.—Sicilian is unaltered at the easier feeling noted last week, *sweet* of new crop offering from 8*s.* 2*d.* to 8*s.* 3½*d.*, and *bitter* at from 8*s.* 4½*d.* to 8*s.* 6*d.* per lb. e.i.f.

PEPPERMINT OIL continues very quiet, good brands of Wayne County offering at 12*s.* to 12*s.* 1½*d.* net and H.G.H. at 15*s.* to 15*s.* 3*d.* London terms. Japanese dementholised is 6*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.* 9*d.*, all spot.

PETROLEUM is firm at 9½*d.* per gal. for ordinary refined American, 10½*d.* for water-white, and 9½*d.* for Russian, on the spot.

QUICKSILVER.—Both first- and second-hands quotations remain unaltered at 8*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* and 8*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.* per bottle.

QUILLAIA continues very scarce in Liverpool, being held for the high price of 30*l.* per ton, and for shipment 28*l.* e.i.f. London is quoted.

QUININE continues quiet at the previous rates of 7½*d.* for best German brands in bulk from makers, 7*d.* to 7½*d.* from second-hands. Amsterdam and Java 6¾*d.* to 6¾*d.* per oz. At the Amsterdam auction held on March 22, 1,417½ kilos. (50,000 oz.) Ed. II. were sold at the average price of fl. 10.54½ per kilo., against fl. 10.47½ per kilo. paid at the previous auction. The next auction will be held on April 12, when a similar quantity will be offered.

SAFFRON is rather firmer in Spain, in consequence of which spot holders quote 41*s.* per lb. net.

SANTONIN.—It is stated that a further rise, possibly 10 marks per kilo., is imminent.

SARSAPILLA.—The three leading descriptions, grey, Lima, and native-Jamaica, are all scarce, with practically nothing obtainable in first-hands; for grey Jamaica 2*s.* 6*d.*

would be readily paid, and single have changed hands at this price. The arrivals comprise 13 bales grey Jamaica, 11 bales Lima-Jamaica, and 9 bales native-Jamaica, which will be offered at the auction on April 18.

SENEGAL is firmer, dealers now asking 2s. 8d. net on the spot, after doing business at 2s. 7d. It cannot be replaced at this figure, New York quoting nominally 62c. to 65c.

SHELLAC continues very quiet in all positions, but prices are about steady. Fair TN orange is quoted at 61s. on the spot and at 61s. c.i.f. for April-May shipment.

SPICES.—At auction 120 bags of Cochin *Ginger* were bought in at 40s. for washed rough and wormy, and dull washed rough at 43s. Of Japanese, 58 bags limed and mouldy were bought in at 32s. Privately the spot price is 30s. for this description. Further business has been done in African ginger in Liverpool at 27s. 6d. per cwt. ex quay terms. Of *Cinnamon*, 20 bales Ceylon sold without reserve at 9d. to 1s. for firsts, 8d. to 9d. for seconds, 6d. to 7d. for thirds, and 5d. for coarse fourths; 40 bags of chips were bought in at 2½d. Privately, sellers to arrive quote Ceylon assortment at 13½d., and chips at 2¾d. c.i.f. for April-May shipment. Nine cases of Penang *Cloves* were bought in at auction at 1s. 1d. for good picked, and for 6 cases of fair bright but stalky Ceylon 7½d. was paid. Privately, the market for Zanzibar has been quiet, with fair quality offering on the spot at 5½d. and June-August delivery at 5½d.; for arrival, sellers of January-March and March-May shipment quote 5½d. and April-June at 5½d. c.i.f. delivered weight. West Indian *Nutmegs* were steady at auction, 127 packages being disposed of. West Indian *Mace* was also steady, 33 packages realising from 2s. 3d. to 2s. 5d. for ordinary to fair, and 2s. 1d. to 2s. 2d. for broken. Of *Pepper* nothing was offered at auction, and privately sellers quote fair Singapore at 5½d. The arrival-market has been weaker, the small sales including Singapore for April-June shipment at 5½d. and Lampong for July-September shipment at 5½d. Of *White pepper*, 94 bags Singapore at auction were bought in at 9d. for fine and 8d. for barely fair. Also 60 bags Muntok were bought in at 8½d. Privately, 8d. is quoted on the spot for fair Singapore, at which a small business has been done. The sales to arrive include April-June shipment at 7½d. and Penang for April-June shipment at 7½d. Also 25 tons Muntok at 8½d. c.i.f. for July-September shipment.

TAMARINDS.—It is said that both Antigua and Barbados are going to be dearer this season; certainly very high prices are being asked for new crop just arriving: for Barbados on the spot 17s. 6d. has been paid, at which price there are buyers; Antigua has also been sold at 10s. 6d. c.i.f.

TARTARIC ACID is firm at 1s. 0½d. for foreign and 1s. 0¾d. for English.

TURPENTINE has fluctuated slightly, closing on Wednesday evening at 35s. 3d. for American on the spot, and 35s. 3d. for April.

VANILLA.—At auction on Wednesday, chiefly Madagascar offered and sold, with good competition, at 6d. to 1s. for firsts; while foxy and split were 3d. to 6d. cheaper.

WAHOO.—New York reports a hardening tendency for bark of root, at from 33c. to 35c. per lb.; on the spot 1s. 6d. net is quoted.

WAX (CARNAUBA).—Sales of waxy grey have been made at 158s. 6d. spot, but no more is to be had; for chalky grey up to 145s. has been paid, but 150s. is now wanted.

Manchester Chemical Market.

March 26.

Considering the coal strike and the difficulties in effecting deliveries, especially in view of short time being worked in Widnes, St. Helens, and other centres, there is a fair business passing in heavy chemicals. Quotations are: White caustic soda, 76 to 77 per cent., 10½d. to 10½d. 12s. 6d.; 74 per cent., 10½d. 7s. 6d.; 70 per cent., 9½d. 12s. 6d.; and 60 per cent., 8½d. 12s. 6d. Bleaching-powder is in quiet inquiry; contracts are being made at 4½d. 2s. 6d. to 4½d. 7s. 6d. per ton f.o.r. makers' works. Bicarbonate of soda is in fair demand. Soda crystals are quiet at 40s. to 45s. in bags on rails at works. Ammonia alkali, 58 per cent., has diminished in production owing to the closing of several works, but

current prices are 4½d. 2s. 6d. to 4½d. 7s. 6d. in bags on rails at works. After July 1 the price will be 2½d. 17s. 6d. to 3½d. 10s. per ton on home account, but this is subject to special quotations for export quantities, according to destination. Prices of nitrate of soda have again advanced. Ordinary is about 11½d. to 11½d. 5s. per ton, with a strong upward movement. Borax shows little change, and lump is quoted at 16½d. 10s. per ton. Bichromate of soda quiet. In potashes, there is very limited inquiry, with more demand for nitrate of potash at 26½d. to 27½d. per ton. Carbonate is easier; 90 to 92 per cent. is 19½d. to 19½d. 5s. per ton. Permanganate of potash is quiet at 45s. per cwt. Yellow prussiate has shown an upward movement and is generally quoted 6d. per lb. In coal-tar products, sulphate of ammonia is in strong inquiry, but there is little or no quantity offering; quotations are therefore nominal at 14½d. 7s. 6d. to 14½d. 10s. on rails, Manchester.

Heavy Chemicals.

Business in the heavy-chemical market is very quiet owing to the joint influences of depletion of stocks and difficulties of transit. In many cases stocks are absolutely worked out, and in such instances orders are being entered for delivery earliest possible after resumption of manufacture, so that early supplies are also accounted for. A fair period is bound to elapse even after the settlement of the coal strike before production is anything like up to normal level, and consequently the market will feel the effects of the present trouble for a good time to come. Values are firm and nominal, but the tendency is upward, especially in view of the prospective increase in the costs of manufacture.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA is firmer and dearer. Present nearest figures: Beckton, prompt, 25 per cent. ammonia guaranteed, 14½d. 2s. 6d.; London terms, 13½d. 17s. 6d.; Leith, 14½d. 15s.; Liverpool, 14½d. 12s. 6d. to 14½d. 13s. 9d.; and Hull, 14½d. 10s. to 14½d. 11s. 3d.

ALUMINA PRODUCTS.—Production in this branch has largely ceased. Quotations for crystal alum and sulphate of alumina are now on a 2s. 6d. per ton higher basis. Crystal alum, lump, 5½d. 10s. to 6½d. 5s.; and ground, in bags, 6½d. to 6½d. 10s. per ton free on rails Lancashire or Yorkshire, or f.o.b. Hull, Goole, or Liverpool. Sulphate of alumina, purest qualities, practically free of iron, ordinary-strength quality, 4½d. 15s. to 5½d. 5s. per ton in casks, with usual allowances for loose slabs and customary extras for the same pure quality in higher concentrations. Aluminous cake 52s. 6d. to 60s. and aluminous cake 50s. to 60s. per ton, according to quality, quantity, and destination. Hydrate of alumina, purest quality and high strength, Al₂O₃, 12½d. 10s. to 13½d. 10s. per ton free on rails in casks. Aluminate of soda, purest quality and high strength, Al₂O₃, 27s. 6d. to 30s. per cwt. Carbonate of alumina 30s. to 32s. 6d. per cwt.

Continental Drug and Chemical Markets.

CARNAUBA WAX is distinctly firmer, and various large parcels recently placed on offer have been cleared at hardening prices. Stocks in importers' hands are also held for higher prices. Sandy grey is quoted at m.295 to m.292.50 and fatty grey m.315 to m.312 per 100 kilos, net ex warehouse.

CREAM OF TARTAR is now affected on the one hand by the strong position of raw material, and on the other by the keen competition among makers. Having regard to the former factor alone, very high prices would doubtless be already enforced, and this must eventually ensue regardless of the undercutting in the manufactured article.

GLYCERIN.—According to Marseilles advices the market showed greater firmness. The last Paris quotations were unchanged at fr.120 for saponification, while the price for 80-per-cent. was reduced by fr.2.50 to fr.97.50. Small parcels were disposed of somewhat below these prices. Numerous soap-makers who were in arrears with their contracts for raw material have been inquiring for immediate delivery, while there are others anxious to cover their requirements over the remainder of the year. Sellers, however, are reserved, and unwilling to commit themselves further ahead. Saponification material costs for March delivery fr.117.50; for delivery over 1912 buyers bid fr.115; for delivery over 1913, fr.112.50, with no sellers in both cases. For glycerin from the lye, 80 per cent., March delivery, is quoted fr.97.50; 1912 and 1913 deliveries not offered, with fr.95 bid. Prices are per 100 kilos, unpacked in buyers' casks f.o.b. to the usual European ports, on the basis of not less than 10,000 kilos, in one bottom, with ¾ per cent. discount for saponification and ½ per cent. discount for 80 per cent. crude.

HYDRASTIS.—Consumers have long delayed paying the high prices asked, and where paid have confined themselves to covering actual wants. The necessity for further purchases became evident again recently, and prices advanced.

KOLA.—The Hamburg market is steadier. Quarters are offered at m.100 and African halves at m.86 per 100 kilos.



Memoranda for Correspondents.

All communications must be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers, otherwise they cannot be dealt with. Queries by subscribers on dispensing, legal, and miscellaneous subjects connected with the business are replied to in these columns if they are considered to be of general interest.

Letters submitted for publication (if suitable) should be written on one side of the paper only. Their publication in "The Chemist and Druggist" does not imply Editorial agreement with the opinions expressed.

Adulterated Santonin.

SIR,—The adulteration of santonin with acetanilide, to which Mr. John C. Umney draws attention in his letter in your issue of March 16, is unfortunately not an innovation so far as the sophistication of this drug is concerned. Boric acid, however, still appears to be the adulterant generally employed, and in this connection it may interest you to hear that in 1904 I had occasion to analyse in my research laboratory a number of samples of "santonin" which was being sold in India at prices which made it clear that the article was adulterated. This so-called santonin consisted of boric acid, in one case of borax, with only traces of santonin. This barefaced fraud did not escape the vigilance of the Indian Customs authorities, and the goods were ordered to be re-shipped, in one instance a penalty of Rs. 100 being imposed. I have before me a bottle sent to me a short time ago by my travelling representative in India. The label bears the wording "Mix Santoninum"—"Manufactured in Calcutta," in addition to the contradictory statement "Deutsches Fabrikat." An analysis of the contents revealed the presence of boric acid *without a trace of santonin*.

Yours faithfully,

Darmstadt.

E. MERCK.

Local Anaesthetics.

SIR,—"Xrayser II."s reference to our paper on "Osmotic Pressure" suggests that he was not a member of the audience when it was read and had not the full text before him when writing his criticism. From the reprint of the paper which we send (it was read almost verbatim) it will be seen that under the cross-heading "Infiltration Anaesthesia" the sentence regarding beta-eucaine and novocaine reads: "Solutions of cocaine were formerly recommended, but salts of the less toxic beta-eucaine and novocaine are now almost exclusively used." This is far from saying that "for local anaesthetics"—a much more inclusive term than "infiltration anaesthesia" in its usual sense—"cocaine has now been replaced by beta-eucaine and novocaine." The statement described as "sheer nonsense" and "ludicrously wrong" is not ours.

"Xrayser II." further states that we entirely ignore stovaine. Instead of this being the case, particular attention is devoted to stovaine and its use for intra-spinal injection; we stated that a 5-per-cent. (w/w) solution has a freezing-point of -0.585°C , which is the same as that of cerebro-spinal fluid. We further pointed out that stovaine exerted a haemolytic effect upon red-blood corpuscles.

We agree that a still wider outlook might have brought about the inclusion of more formulae with advantage; the paper was, however, sufficient for one evening, and contained an intimation that the subject was not exhausted and that the work was being continued.

Yours faithfully,

F. W. GAMBLE,

REGINALD R. BENNETT.

The Shops Act in Birmingham.

SIR,—On March 6 a meeting of the Midland Pharmaceutical Association was held at the University to discuss the Shops Act, 1911, and a resolution was proposed by Mr. W. Shakespeare to the effect that "The Council of the Association be instructed to approach the city authorities with a view to a closing order for Wednesday being

applied to pharmacists and drug-stores." Although this resolution was proposed and seconded, it took the officials about half an hour to put it to a vote, presumably because it did not please those in power; when the resolution was eventually put it was carried by a majority of 30 on a vote of 36—very conclusive evidence of the wishes of those present. It was also suggested that the Association should circularise the pharmacists and drug-stores of the city to test their feeling and to have figures to give the city authorities. In a petition embodying the above resolution received from Mr. Richards, pharmacist, of Hagley Road, it is stated that he is asking for signatures, "as the Council of the Midland Pharmaceutical Association . . . have decided to let the matter drop for the present"—an action they cannot possibly justify, as an amendment that "the matter be left in the hands of the Council" was heavily defeated. Now the Council of the Association have by many of their actions shown that their opinions do not represent the bulk of the pharmacists in Birmingham and district. This action will I think prove their undoing, and rouse Birmingham pharmacists to action. Why should these few pharmacists with select businesses, who can afford to keep assistants, and themselves have what leisure they want, override the desire and definite instructions of their less fortunate brethren who work single-handed and welcome the Shops Act as an opportunity to get half a day weekly of much-needed freedom from business? At this meeting the enthusiasm for the half-holiday was intense, and our thanks are due to Mr. Richards for his prompt action to frustrate the action of our Council. I appeal to all pharmacists and drug-store proprietors in Birmingham to support Mr. Richards's petition, and to send him a card should they be overlooked in the canvassing. Also I would point out to those pharmacists who hold aloof from the Association that the remedy lies with themselves. Join the Association and follow the policy of our Liverpool *confreres* by putting on the Council men who know our needs, who represent our views, and are willing to carry out our instructions. Let us have a Council and an Association worthy of our city, and not one which is put to shame by many small towns which have Associations full of life and vigour and a programme of helpful meetings.

Yours faithfully,

323 Coventry Road, Birmingham. H. O. LLOYD.

The I.S.P. and D.S.P. Diploma.

SIR,—Your correspondent "Carica" (*C. & D.*, March 23) evidently knows a lot about sweeping shop-floors and the difference between powdered jalap and powdered senna, but in his remarks about the diploma of the I.S.P. and D.S.P. he is very much in a fog. Our Society's certificate is given to those only who have served a regular apprenticeship to a competent man; and after July 1912 new members will have to pass an examination equal to that of the Irish druggists'. One leading object of our Society is to raise the status of drug-stores by excluding from membership all incompetents and undesirables. Surely this object ought to have the good wishes of our friends the chemists? In your issue of March 16 "Xrayser II." (who appears to have taken up art criticism as a side line) thinks the certificate "may suggest embarrassing inquiries." I can assure "Xrayser II." that it does suggest inquiries, but none of them embarrassing; on the contrary, it gives an opportunity of explaining the difference between those who have served an apprenticeship and acquired knowledge by practical experience and those who have passed a qualifying examination by the aid of a long purse, the crammer's art, and strong faith in the old song "Try, try, try again." Yours respectfully,

S. L. (122/63.)

Apothecaries' Assistants.

SIR,—I was very pleased to see the reply given to Captain Craig in the House of Commons re Registration of Army Compounders:

That the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain's attention has been drawn to the matter by the War Office, and the question of certifying assistants will also receive the Society's attention.

This, I take it, means that the Society are contemplating framing by-laws under Section IV. (b) of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, for the registration of army com-

C

pounders and apothecaries' assistants, and the questions we as apothecaries' assistants have to ask ourselves are (1) when? and (2) under what conditions? In view of the passing of the Insurance Act (which must inevitably result in a large number of apothecaries' assistants who are acting as dispensers to medical men losing their employment) all of us will feel that these by-laws should be framed immediately. Then comes the question, Under what conditions should we be allowed to register? The answer to this is to be found, I imagine, in the regulations for the various examinations of the Pharmaceutical Society. It has been the policy of the Society to insist on (1) a Preliminary examination, (2) three years' practical dispensing, and (3) a further examination—the Minor. It seems to me that candidates for registration will have to submit evidence on these points to the Pharmaceutical Council before they can consent to the registration of either army compounders or apothecaries' assistants. From the letter of "Rural" in your issue of March 23 I notice that the Society of Apothecaries is remodelling the assistants' examination, and in my opinion this should be on the lines of the Minor examination, so that apothecaries' assistants of the future would be qualified for registration under Section IV. (b) of the 1908 Act. The calling of dispenser to a medical man will soon be a thing of the past, and pharmacists and apothecaries' assistants should unite and work together for the common good. Chemists will gain largely by the Insurance Act and will require skilled assistance to help with the work, and no one is better able to render this assistance than the apothecaries' assistant, who will be more contented and satisfied if he is allowed to register as a pharmacist than he is in his present position.

Yours truly,

AN APOTHECARIES' ASSISTANT. (120/38.)

Subscribers' Symposium.

For questions, answers, incidents, and interchange of opinions among "C. & D." readers.

"Mixed Treatment" Pills.

We have to thank several subscribers who have furnished the information required by "Ammon" (*C. & D.*, March 23, index folio 457). The references are to the lists of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. and Messrs. Arthur H. Cox & Co., Ltd., where the following formula is given:

Potass. iodid.	...	...	gr. ij.
Syr. ferri iodidi	...	...	m.v.
Hydrarg. perchlor.	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{4}$
Liq. Donovanii	...	...	mij.
Tr. nuc. vom.	...	...	mij.

Bacteriology and Clinical Analysis.

Mr. Ernest Quant, F.C.S. (Torquay), informs us that there is at present an opportunity for young pharmacists to take a three months' course of practical bacteriology and clinical analysis under Professor Hewlett, King's College, London, with whom Mr. Quant has made arrangements on behalf of a pharmaceutical chemist for practical instruction in bacteriology extending over two months, followed by demonstrations and practical work embracing the more important points in laboratory methods adopted in the examination of blood, urine, fæces, sputum, pus, and other pathological matters. The course will probably begin shortly after Easter, and full particulars can be obtained from Professor Hewlett or from Mr. Quant.

Whitla's Hamorrhoids Ointment.

Perhaps the following is what "L. & B." requires:

"Two ounces of the B.P. juice of conium are placed in a small evaporating-dish and permitted to evaporate slowly at a heat under 150° F. till the bulk is reduced to about 1½ dr. This can be done by placing the dish on the top of an ordinary domestic hot-water cistern for twenty-four or forty-eight hours. The syrupy liquid is then carefully triturated with as much lanoline as will make the weight up to 1 oz.; the result is a perfectly smooth adhesive ointment of a light brown or dark fawn colour and stable. Ten grains of persulphate of iron may be added in suitable cases, as recommended by Cripps."—"Dictionary of Treatment, Whitla" (1892).—*T. D. T.* (122/8).

Insurance of Chemists' Employés.

Ajax (121/32) writes in support of "J. A. S.'s" remarks, and among his comments on things in general are these: "'J. A. S.' is evidently of a more optimistic nature than myself. I hope he is right, and that there are signs of the dawn of the professional stage in our calling. But my

opinion is that with the increasing number of multiple company shops being opened up all over the country the pains of a 'vicious commercialism' will become still more acute. . . . Comparisons are odious, and I do not wish to flatter, but after this year the Pharmaceutical Society will know me no more, at least as a member thereof. I have been a member for some years, a subscriber to the Benevolent Fund longer still, and I also subscribed towards Mr. Glyn-Jones's expenses as a Parliamentary candidate, but I have yet to find any good I have derived from these subscriptions."

What Was This?

The following copy of directions has been sent to us by a subscriber in South Africa (112/14). Does anyone know what it refers to?

ALKALINE SOLUTION.

This medicine is a solution of lime, the ashes of the ash tree, etc., in water. Its obvious qualities are those of a tonic and antacid, strengthening the stomach, and promoting the appetite. Sometimes great advantage is derived from putting 2 or 3 drachms of coarsely powdered rhubarb into a small 6-oz. bottle of the alkali. In this state it is called the alkaline tincture of rhubarb, and is more aperient than it is in its simple state, and perhaps more tonic. The proper dose is one teaspoonful, or even less, three times a day in water, milk and water, linseed-tea, or any other agreeable vehicle, to be taken in a good deal of liquid, not less than half a teacupful, and all acid and sub-acid fruit must be avoided while taking it. It is prepared by Mr. G. F. Watts, chemist, No. 17 Strand, London, from whom it may always be obtained of excellent quality.

Medical and Dental Qualifications.

Mr. Robert Fouracre, 89 Tollington Park, London, N., writing in regard to our article of March 13 on the Medical and Dental Registers, and our remark as to their settling definitely the question of the scholastic qualifications of doctors and dentists, says that "this is not so, many men not registering their higher degrees. I was interested to learn something in connection with the procedure thereof, and it appears that every additional qualification registered has to be accompanied by payment of a fee. This is a reason for non-registration, the practitioner, however, being entitled to use all his unregistered qualifications, except on a death certificate." [This appears to apply only to dentists. Out of a dozen names taken at random from the Dentists' Register and Churchill's "Medical Directory" we find one only who has not given his full educational qualifications to the Registrar. That is the case of a person who was in practice before the Dentists Act, and who afterwards obtained the Irish L.D.S. *sine curriculo*. In the cases of a dozen medical practitioners taken at random, their higher professional qualifications—e.g., M.D. and F.R.C.P.—are in every instance indicated in the Register. So that our statement of last week is not negated as suggested. Nevertheless, Mr. Fouracre's remarks are interesting in respect to bringing the facts out more forcibly.—EDITOR, *C. & D.*]

Dispensing Notes.

This section is for the discussion and solution of dispensing problems and prescriptions submitted by "C. & D." readers. We are always pleased to receive the opinions of readers for publication. "The Art of Dispensing" ("C. & D." Office, 6s.) is the standard book of reference on this subject.

A Green Nux Mixture.

SIR,—I shall be obliged if you will inform me through the *C. & D.* why the following mixture turns green on standing a few hours:

Sodii bicarb.	...	...	3ss.
Tinct. nuc. vom.	...	...	5ij.
Spt. ammon. arom.	...	...	5vj.
Aq. menth. pip. ad	...	...	3vj.

M.

Yours truly,
W. & H. (121/66).

[Igasuric acid, a constituent of nux vomica, becomes green with ammonia. See "The Art of Dispensing," p. 242.]

Legal Queries.

Consult "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1912, pp. 435 to 454, where most legal difficulties are anticipated, before writing about your difficulty.

J. H. D. (121/53).—See paragraph "Pharmacy" in the *C. & D. Diary*, 1912, p. 439.

T. C. C. (115/57).—If the nurse has an estate separate from her husband it is not necessary for you to sue the latter for her debt. It is apparent from the nature of the goods supplied that they were not of the nature for which the husband is in law responsible.

F. H. R. (119/64).—You are perfectly correct in your surmise that it is illegal for a retailer who has not the express authority of the Board of Customs and Excise to use bay rum made from industrial methylated spirit in preparing other preparations for the hair. See *C. & D.*, February 24, index folio 298, and March 16, index folio 411.

Pernambuco (114/60).—You appear to have in your carton and handbill for the chest tablets ingeniously steered clear of the shoals of liability, but we cannot say that the word "effective" is not a "reference to the manner in which the medicine acts" upon the chest, and you should erase that word on the earliest opportunity. See "Body Names," *C. & D. Diary*, p. 440.

P. H. (113/20) in August last had some goods forwarded to him, in error, by a London wholesale house. "P. H." returned the goods to London, carriage forward, but they were never delivered. He, having unsuccessfully claimed the value of the goods (over 10s.) from the carriers, wishes to know whether he should take proceedings against them, or leave the wholesale house to do so. [The wholesale house is the proper party to take steps to recover the value of the lost goods from the carriers.]

F. V. (116/21) has always given his assistants a half-holiday weekly from 1 p.m., and will continue this under the Shops Act, 1911, but desires them all to go on one day and to close the shop, say, on a Thursday. If the majority of the chemists in the district are in favour of this, is there anything, he asks, to prevent chemists from supplying surgical and medical goods during the Thursday afternoon and evening when the shops are closed? [No, but observe that a majority of two-thirds of the occupiers of shops in which medicines and medical and surgical appliances are sold (not chemists merely) is necessary before the local authority can grant the closing order desired.]

Fairplay (115/61) puts this problem: A pays B 25*l.*, for which B agrees to teach A's daughter the business of a chemist and druggist for one year, and, if mutually agreed, for a further period of two years, B to pay A's daughter 5*s.* per week for her services, which practically means returning the premium in the form of wages. No agreement was signed. A week after the duties commenced A's daughter obtains a situation with remuneration of 1*l.* per week. B agrees to liberate her, but A claims the return of the money, to which B objects. Is B justified in retaining the whole or a portion of the money? [B cannot be compelled to refund any part of the money.]

Liverpudlian (122/12) states that doubt has been expressed in his district as to whether or not an order is necessary before chemists' shops can be exempted from closing under the Shops Act, 1911. [No; they are specifically exempted by Section 2 (1) and Schedule 2 from the weekly half-holiday closing. We have repeatedly stated that the exemption is not given to chemists' shops as such, but simply to the sale of medicines and medical and surgical appliances, and certain other articles—*e.g.*, confectionery, refreshments such as soda-water, and tobacco and smokers' requisites. As more than one trade is usually carried on in chemists' shops those who do not take a half-holiday after May 1 must make it perfectly clear that the shop is not open for the purpose of selling non-exempted articles (Section 5). Section 2 (6) enables sellers of medicines and medical and surgical appliances to have the exemption provisions annulled if two-thirds of them vote for this—that is to say, a two-thirds majority could obtain an order requiring the shops to be closed, but this order will not prevent the sale of medicines and medical and surgical appliances during the closing hours.]

G. E. Oliver (121/10).—(1) In the case of a limited company carrying on two classes of shops—*viz.*, chemists' and drug-stores—only the chemists' shops will (we presume) be put on the panel for dispensing of medicines. If the company were to allow the addresses of the drug-stores to go on the panel, that would be an incriminating admission that these shops are carried on under Section III. (4) of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, and failure to comply with *b* of the sub-section would make them liable to a fine of 5*l.* Any local committee of chemists could oppose the inclusion of drug-stores on the dispensing panel. (2) Panels are to be formed by local Insurance Committees, and Section 15 (5 iii) directs that the regulations shall prohibit arrangements being made with any person who cannot legally carry on the business of a chemist and druggist. It is absurd, therefore, for you to say that "no power on earth can prevent the Insurance Commissioners from placing the name of a doctor's dispenser on the panel." They have nothing directly to do with this, but according to the regulations (*C. & D.*, January 20, index folio 84) the Commissioners have, "under paragraph (b) of Sub-section 5 of

Section 15, the power of determining whether the inclusion or continuance of a person, firm, or body corporate in such list as is mentioned in that sub-section would be prejudicial to the efficiency of the service." If a drug-store keeper or doctor's dispenser should be put on any dispensing panel, he can be removed accordingly. Your succeeding questions are trivial, because you have not yet grasped the significance of Section 15 (5 iii). We all know perfectly well that "registered pharmacist" is not a strictly statutory term, but it means a pharmacist who is registered under the Pharmacy Acts, therefore a pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist. In the case of the company which you refer to there is only one shop, and if the superintendent's name has been communicated to the Registrar, and he is manager of the shop, it is not necessary to have his certificate of qualification exhibited. As the company trades as apothecaries (not chemists and druggists) it is not necessary that the superintendent should be a director. Thanks for your observations supplementing "Verax," which we reserve.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We do not as a rule repeat information which has been given in this section during the past twelve months, as it occupies space which can be more profitably utilised for other information. In such cases the numbers are mentioned, and if querists cannot refer to these they may obtain the numbers from the "C. & D." Office at the published prices, usually 6*d.*

We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles, and when samples are sent particulars should be supplied to us as to their origin, what they are, what they are used for and how.

J. B. (86/14).—GOLD PAINT.—See *C. & D.*, February 11, 1911, index folio 238.

Ox. Rub. (121/60).—What is the "excessive colour in the face" to which you refer? If the natural glow of health, you would be most unwise to supply any medicine to remove it. If the subject is a woman, let her use face-powder.

L. T. (Alberta) (99/64).—(1) TINCTURE OF ACONITE FOR HORSES.—We agree with you that it is unfortunate that uncertainty exists as to the strength of tincture of aconite to employ in veterinary practice. The tendency of late years has been to use the B.P. tincture in preference to Fleming's tincture, and Tuson's "Veterinary Pharmacopœia" (Churchill, 7*s.* 6*d.*) adopts the B.P. formula with the following dosage:

Horse, 30 to 50 minims; cattle, 40 to 80 minims; sheep, 8 to 12 minims; pig, 8 to 12 minims; dog, 3 to 10 minims. Given in water, and repeated every two hours

It is probable that the strength of this tincture will be doubled in the new edition of the British Pharmacopœia so as to bring it into approximate conformity with the requirements of the International Agreement. At present neither the root nor the tincture is standardised, but it is proposed to standardise the root to a minimum of 0.4 per cent. of ether-soluble alkaloids; the tincture (altered to 10 per cent. w/v) would then contain 0.04 per cent. of alkaloids, the International Agreement requiring 0.05 per cent. The U.S.P. tincture of aconite is now 1 in 10, and is standardised to 0.045 gram aconitine in 100 c.c. by a process given in the Pharmacopœia. Considering, therefore, that your proximity to the United States often brings you in contact with the requirements of the Pharmacopœia of that country, we should be inclined to employ for veterinary use the U.S.P. tincture until such time as the B.P. revision has been carried out. In this case the dose should be clearly indicated. (2) "The Homœopathic Pharmacopœia" was drawn up by the British Homœopathic Society in 1870, and has been revised at intervals. It is published by Gould at 10*s.* 6*d.* In this case fresh aconite-leaves and flowering-tops are employed, although the root is used for a stronger tincture, which, however, must be distinctly specified if required in a prescription. The tincture is not a standardised preparation.

P. W. (116/32).—LEAD HAIR-DYE ("P.F." p. 121).—The quantities of lead acetate in the two formulas are correct. An increased quantity in the transparent dye will not enhance its efficacy. The addition of tincture of jaborandi will not interfere with the lotion, but will make it nasty-looking. A grain or two of pilocarpine nitrate would be better, but it is seldom that either affects the hair-follicles beneficially or otherwise.

F. & G. (117/16).—LOTIO CARBONIS DETERGENS.—The proportion of Wright's liquor for a skin-lotion is 1 in 20. You will find several formulas on p. 217 of the *C. & D. Diary*, 1912.

W. K. (119/60).—MOTORISTS' LIQUID-SOAP:

Soft soap	...	...	3 lb.
Turpentine	...	...	1 pint

Melt the soap in an evaporating-dish. Remove it from the fire. Add the turpentine, little by little, stirring after each addition. When cold rub a small piece into the hands, rinse with warm water, and the most obstinate stains can be removed.

Terebene or sanitas oil can be employed in place of turpentine.

W. H. R. (117/38) wants a remedy or application to assist puppies or toy dogs which take a long time in CASTING THEIR COATS. [Such cases do occur, but patience and perseverance are the best remedies. If an application is really desired, mix powdered resin with an equal quantity of powdered orris or rice-flour and rub it well into the coat for half an hour with a dandy-brush. As a tonic, a little Donovan's solution may be given, according to the size and weight of the dog, the range being from 2 minims to 10 minims twice daily.]

W. F. (107/64).—GLUTEN-BREAD MANUFACTURE.—See *C. & D.*, December 2, index folio 834.

J. B. (97/14).—SOUP-POWDER.—You must not expect to find a ready-made formula for soup-powder; such processes need working out in practice, and then are not likely to be published. The two main processes are (1) the mixing of dried powdered ingredients, and (2) the solidification of concentrated soup with gelatin and subsequent desiccation. The first method requires the use of dried vegetables, dried meat extract, vermicelli or macaroni, and spice, the proportions, according to one authority, being as follows: Potatoes, turnips, carrots, parsnips, of each 66 parts; onion, 18 parts; meat extract, $\frac{1}{2}$ part; pepper, 9 parts; salt, 75 parts. To make soup from such a mixture 2 oz. is required for 3 pints of water, the mixture being boiled for fifteen minutes. In the gelatin process concentrated soup stock is made by pressing out the juice of meat and vegetables or employing meat extract with turnip, carrot, and onion juices to which essence of mixed spice and an infusion of savoury herbs are added. The proportion of gelatin needed is 2 oz. to a quart of liquid, salt being also needed as a preservative. Of the desiccated product from one to two tablespoonfuls is needed for a pint of soup.

May. Sulph. (110/27).—HARDENING A DOG'S COAT.—We believe lime-water is used for this purpose, applied by brushing the coat with a brush moistened with the liquid. We have not heard of alum being employed for the purpose.

B. & F. (113/61).—COUGH-POWDERS FOR HORSES.—See *C. & D.*, February 3, index folio 206.

X. Y. Z. (113/43).—(1) SHAMPOO-POWDERS FOR DRY USE.—See *C. & D.*, March 23, index folios 458 and 459, for several references to this. (2) STRAW-HAT CLEANER.—See *C. & D.*, November 19, 1910, index folio 776, and December 3, 1910, index folio 846.

Secundo (90/27).—MODERN BOOK ON CONFECTIONERY MANUFACTURE.—We think that Jacquot's "Chocolate and Confectionery Manufacture," published by Maelaren at 21s., will meet your requirements.

C. M. (91/58).—TESTING COD OIL. Lewkowitseh states that "cod oil is frequently adulterated with fish oils, the detection and quantitative determination of which still offer a difficult problem which has not been solved satisfactorily." From this you will see that we cannot answer your request for a simple and reliable test for herring oil in cod oil. In regard to mineral oils, these are detected by noting the quantity of unsaponifiable substances after boiling with alcoholic caustic potash, and also by the sp. gr. The alcoholic potash is prepared by dissolving 40 grams of caustic potash in a little water, and adding alcohol (sp. gr. 0.810) to make 1,000 c.c. Bearing in mind that brown cod oil contains from 2 to 5 per cent. of unsaponifiable oils, it is possible to gauge fairly accurately whether mineral oil has been added.

H. R. & Co. (114/33).—(1) SOLUBLE ESSENCE OF LEMON.—This subject is dealt with fully in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," which has a chapter on the preparation of soluble essences. (2) CREAM-SODA ESSENCE:

Essence of ginger-ale	...	10 parts
Essence of limes, lemon, and pineapple	...	...
Essence of vanilla and raspberry	...	...
berry	...	2 parts

Mix and filter.

(3) There is no book published on the manufacture of soluble essences.

Bristol (112/5).—HAIR-RESTORER.—We cannot carry our analysis much further than you have done. There are present resorcin and sodium hyposulphite, and it is possible that these are the active principles of the hair-lotion. We should expect some change in the appearance of the liquid on keeping, which would be quite compatible with the liquid as you received it from your customer.

Linctus (7/12).—COUGH-LINCTUS.—We find present in this linctus ext. glycyrrh. liq., chloroform., ol. anisi, and tr. capsici, and are inclined to attribute the curative effects to the warming influence of the tr. capsici on the throat. You note that it is taken undiluted.

F. R. (79/5).—BAKING-POWDER containing ammonium acid phosphate:

Sodium bicarbonate	...	3 lb. 2 oz.
Ammonium acid phosphate	...	2 lb.
Flour	...	4 lb.

Dry separately, and mix well.

J. R. (118/63).—(1) BALL-ROOM FLOOR-POLISH.—The recipe in "Pharmaceutical Formulas" is good and modern. Here is a variation which meets your requirements in the matter of perfume:

Hard paraffin	...	1 lb.
Spermaceti	...	1 lb.
Boric acid	...	14 lb.
Lavender oil	...	1 dr.
Clove oil	...	5 minims

The first two ingredients are melted together, the boric acid stirred in. When the mass is cold it is reduced to powder or granules, as desired. The perfume is added at the powdering stage.

(2) DESICCATING CHEMICAL FOR USE IN PIANOS.—The only practical substance to employ for keeping dry the interior of pianos is calcium chloride. It is best used by melting the chloride and pouring the melted salt upon wads of absorbent cotton-wool.

A. C. M. (108/43).—(1) LIQUID DEFLATORY.—The variety to which you refer is a 20-per-cent. solution of sodium sulphide. For another kind see *C. & D.*, September 23, 1911, index folio 494. (2) The chief classes in which trade-marks can be registered were last given in *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary*, 1911, p. 205.

Cyclist (115/15).—TYRE-PUNCTURE PREVENTIVE.—The powder used for making a liquid for placing in cycle inner tubes to prevent puncturing is chiefly composed of dextrin. There is also present some black substance, probably charcoal, and a small quantity of sugar. The dextrin is, we think, the active ingredient.

W. P. (113/51).—(1) AMMONIATED-QUININE TABLETS.—We have no formula for these, but they consist of quinine sulphate with ammonium carbonate in place of ammonia solution. (2) DRY SHAMPOO free from soap or quillaia probably refers to the solvent shampoo liquids, which consist of benzene or carbon tetrachloride. The use of these solvents on the hair is now condemned, owing to the danger of fire or asphyxiation. Deaths have occurred through the use of benzene and carbon tetrachloride as shampoos.

Retrospect of Fifty Years Ago.

Reprinted from "The Chemist and Druggist," March 15, 1862.

Popular Chemistry.

"The Universal Chemist and Druggist." (Price One Penny. London: George Vickers.) Several subscribers have drawn our attention to this formidable rival, and at the risk of impairing our circulation we now introduce it to the notice of the whole trade. Though the proprietor has coolly stolen our title, we still hesitate as to whether we shall take proceedings against him or not. The barque which he has launched into the stream of periodical literature, though sailing under false colours, is intended to convey precious Medical secrets to all those who are ailing and wanting advice gratis. Why should we scuttle it? It is not a trade journal; in fact, its mission is to supersede *Chemists and Druggists* entirely. Though aiming at universal dominion, it comes to us in exceedingly modest guise—in a flimsy wrapper, and got up altogether in the style of the well-remembered halfpenny editions of "Jack the Giant Killer" and "Puss in Boots." We cannot pretend to criticise the information given by this new guide to Pharmacy. A few extracts will show that it is of far too high a character for us to deal with:

Viper wine is made of two ounces of dried vipers and two quarts of white wine.

As to plasters in general, they do more harm than good; the bruised leaves of herbs are better than all the plasters in the world.

No family should be without an alembic or still, as that will be of material service; with that instrument the simple waters are to be made, with no expense except the fire.